



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

# folio

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## Princess gives campus the royal treatment

*Princess Hisako Takamado spreads message of global understanding*

By Mari Sasano

"Japan and Canada, when you look  
on a map, look a huge distance away.  
But in reality, we are very close. We  
are neighbours."

— Princess Hisako Takamado

Emphasizing the importance of building relationships between cultures, between universities and between one other, Princess Hisako Takamado of Japan visited with University of Alberta students and staff late February.

The visit also marked her "virtual debut," networking with students and faculty members at the universities of British Columbia, Calgary, Toronto and Victoria.

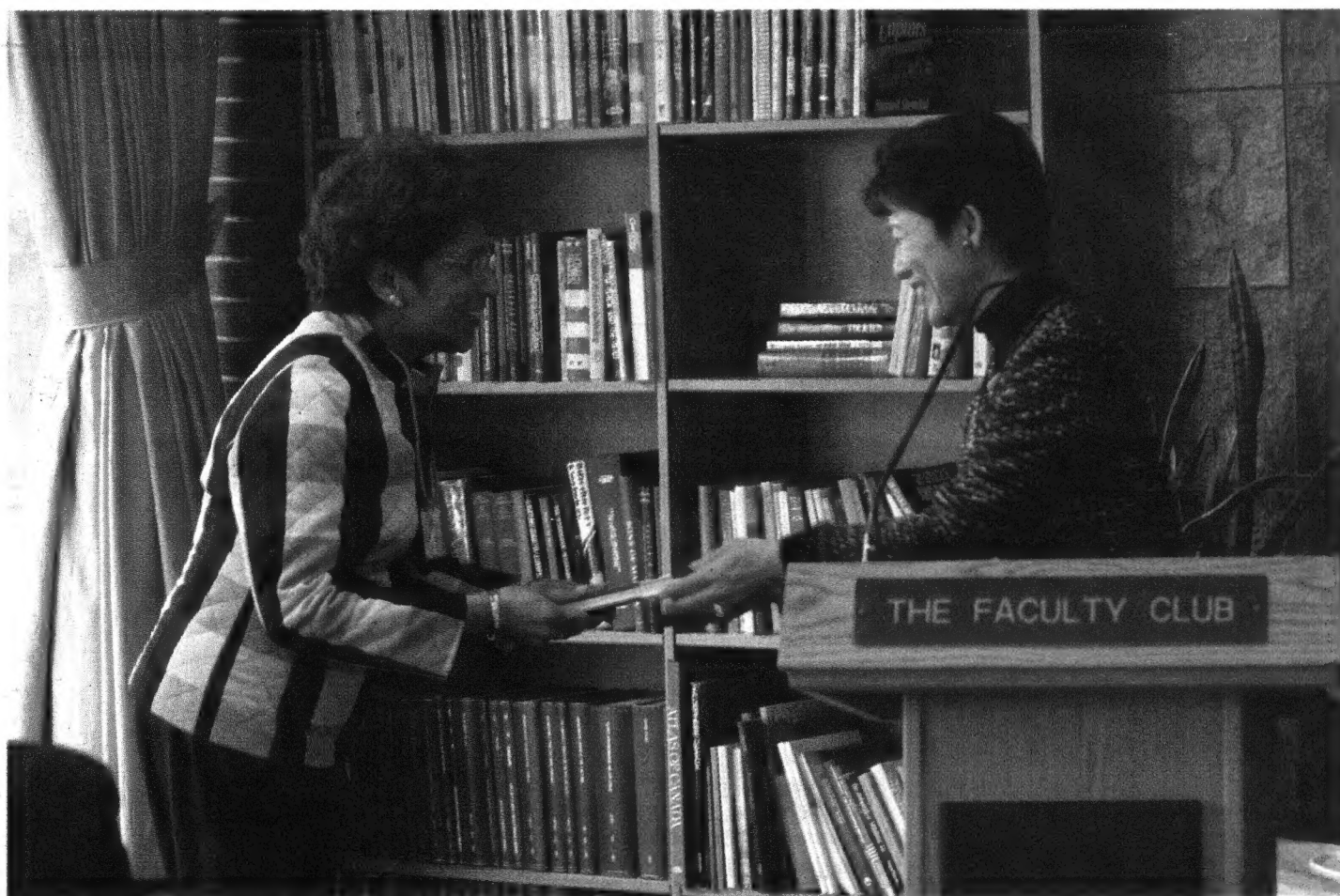
"I congratulate you all on choosing such a wonderful language," she said to a packed senate chamber audience and into a camera linking the universities. Participants communicated by voice and image via videoconferencing equipment donated by the Sony Corporation, to the Canadian Network for Japan Studies. The centre was spearheaded by the Prince Takamado Japan Centre for Teaching and Research, named in honour of the Princess' late husband. Prince Takamado attended Queen's University in Kingston and that experience nurtured a life-long affection for Canada, one that he shared with his wife and family.

"Japan and Canada, when you look on a map, look a huge distance away. But in reality, we are very close. We are neighbours," she said.

Princess Takamado continues her late husband's work, fostering global understanding through education.

"The fact that you understand Japanese by itself is not enough," she told the students, "You must have something you want to communicate. I ask all language students not only to be interested in the language itself, but in everything else."

She also spoke passionately about the



Princess Hisako Takamado greets U of A President Indira Samarasekera.

environment, especially global warming, noting a balmy Edmonton morning as well as unusual levels of snowfall in Japan as evidence that something is happening to the climate.

"This summer I went without air conditioning, and until the first of January I tried to be without heating," she said, urging all of us to take notice and to act to preserve our environment.

These relationships were further strengthened at a Faculty Club lunch hosted by U of A President Indira Samarasekera and attended by Consul-General Soemu Horie and his wife Masako, President Emeritus Rod Fraser, and Edmonton Mayor Stephen Mandel.

"The University of Alberta has long

been committed to ensuring our students have the opportunity to study Japan, the language and its culture," said Samarasekera, citing the importance of initiatives such as the videoconferencing to bring together Japan Studies programs across Canada.

"It is this kind of innovation that will have incredible benefits for our research and for our students."

Samarasekera then announced the recent launch of the Prince Takamado Japan Centre Memorial Fund, in order to continue to fund the Prince's legacy at the University of Alberta.

Currently \$200,000 has been raised for the centre, and a committee has been established in Japan, she explained.

"The head of the Japanese campaign visited the University of Alberta this fall and was very impressed at our dedication to ensure the objectives of this fund would be met. Recently the Government of Alberta announced the Access to the Future Fund, which when fully operational, will match certain donations to post-secondary institutions. So I am pleased to announce that the University of Alberta through the Access to the Future Fund, will apply to match all donations to the Prince Takamado Japan Centre Memorial Fund," Samarasekera said.

"It will foster the teaching, research and cultural exchange programs that will address the environmental issues that were so important to the prince and princess." ■



# Cattle byproduct may help in fire fighting

Researchers converting blood meal into biodegradable fire-fighting foam

By Beverly Betkowski

What have cattle got to do with firefight-ers or oil wells? Quite a bit, as it turns out. Cattle produce meat and milk for our tables, and now the University of Alberta is discovering new ways to use a cattle byproduct that was devalued in the wake of mad cow disease (BSE).

Blood meal, the dried blood left over after carcasses are processed at a rendering plant, is being explored for its properties as a fire-fighting foam and other foaming applications, including advanced oil recovery operations. The brown powder had previously been sold at a low profit as an additive to livestock feed, but the market dissolved after BSE was discovered in an Alberta cow in 2003.

Since then, the U of A departments of Chemical and Materials Engineering and Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science have collaborated to research the possibilities of blood meal. Their efforts are paying off, said Jayne Roper, a fourth-year chemical engineering student at the University of Alberta.

After two months in the lab, Roper and other U of A researchers have successfully converted the solid blood meal into dis-solvable form-which must happen before it can be turned into a foaming agent.

It took some experimentation in the lab, Roper said. "At first we tried grinding the blood meal mechanically and getting it to

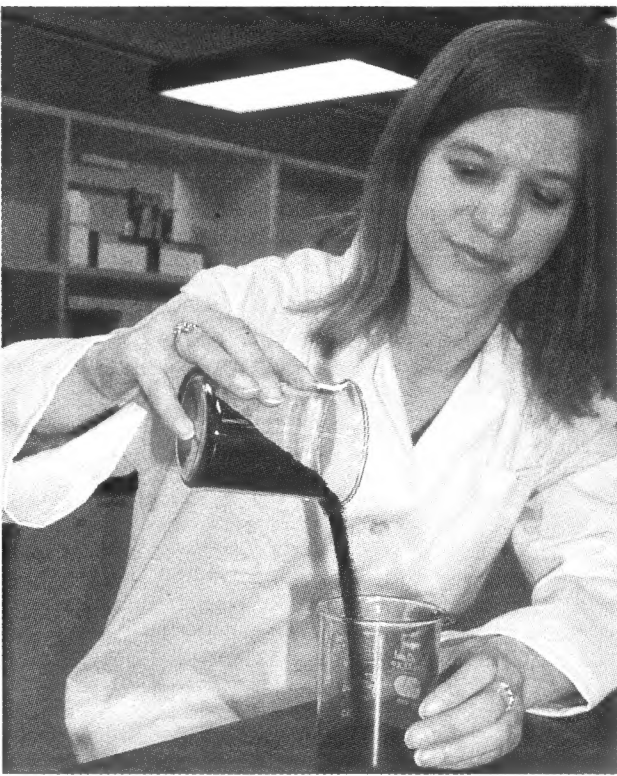
dissolve in water or a low-concentration salt solution. That didn't work well, but by using a base solution with a high pH, it worked well. We're heading in the right direction now." The protein in blood meal can now be purified and isolated from its liquid form, an important step before modifying the protein to improve its foaming properties.

Blood meal products could be ready for mainstream industrial and commercial use within the next few years.

The bovine proteins in blood meal, once engineered, should lend themselves to producing lots of long-lasting foam, which is an important element for firefighting, Roper said. Blood meal is naturally sourced, and it is expected that the derived foaming agent will be biodegradable. Currently, the chemical foams used to smother flames have potential health and environmental implications. "It's not something you want to have around humans in large quantities," Roper noted.

As well, foams created from blood meal are likely applicable in the drilling industry, and Roper sees plenty of potential for other uses. "This makes for exciting basic research. Developing protein-based foaming agents like this may also permit discovery of new forms of biodegradable defoamers which help remove foaming from processes used in industries such as pulp and paper processing."

"This project is exciting because it fosters a collaborative approach between my



Chemical Engineering student Jayne Roper in the lab.

laboratory and that of two professors in the U of A Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering," said Dr. David Bressler, a professor in the Department of Agricultural, Food, and Nutritional Science and principal researcher in the project. "The research directs engineering expertise, which traditionally focuses on the

petrochemical sector, toward agriculture resources and those applications."

"Projects like this ensure that Alberta plays a leadership role in tomorrow's emerging bio-economy," Bressler said.

The research is supported by the Alberta Agriculture Research Institute and AVAC Ltd.

"Projects like this ensure that Alberta plays a leadership role in tomorrow's emerging bio-economy."

— David Bressler

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## Experimental stroke treatment shows promise

Treatment blends drug cocktail, mild hypothermia

By Richard Cairney

A radical experimental approach to treat stroke patients at the University of Alberta Hospital, by administering a cocktail of drugs and inducing mild hypothermia, is showing promising results.

The treatment combines four drugs and mild hypothermia. Previously, only two-drug research tests have been used, said Dr. Ashfaq Shuaib, director of the division of neurology in the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry at the University of Alberta, and section head of neurology with Capital Health.

Stroke patient Randy Greene can testify to the treatment's value. Green, 57, suffered a stroke last Oct. 2 at his home in Tofield, nearly an hour's drive southeast of Edmonton. Paramedics administered one of four drugs being used in Shuaib's MINUTES (Multiple Interventions for Neuroprotection Utilizing Thermal Regulation in the Emergent Treatment of Stroke) research project. Once Greene arrived at the hospital, he was given three other drugs. The treatment also incorporates a head-cooling device to protect the brain by inducing clinical hypothermia.

"Cooling affects the cascade of biochemical processes that start with a lack of oxygen to the brain," explained Dr. Muzaffar Siddiqui, a U of A neurology professor and a Capital Health Stroke Fellow. "In treating strokes, time is brain, so the sooner we can start treatments, the better."

None of the drugs are used in the treatment of strokes, so are considered experimental in this case, said Shuaib.

Shuaib said the approach puts stroke treatment where AIDS treatment was in the mid-1990s, before so-called drug cocktails were used in a multi-pronged approach to treating ischemic stroke, the most common type.

Between 55,000 and 60,000 Canadians



Dr. Muzaffar Siddiqui applies a head-cooling device to stroke patient Randy Greene.

"Cooling affects the cascade of biochemical processes that start with a lack of oxygen to the brain."

— Dr. Muzaffar Siddiqui

will suffer a stroke this year, and treatment costs - as a result of physical disability following a stroke - add up to about \$4 billion annually, Shuaib said.

"Our goal is to decrease the severity of a stroke out of hospital and cut down

on disability," he said, adding that so far, six patients have undergone the treatment. The research project needs to test it out on a total of 37 patients.

"The preliminary results are encouraging," he said.

Greene certainly thinks so. "I was in my garage reaching up for a tool and I just went down," said Greene, who had to crawl back into his house, because his right leg and arm were paralyzed. "I didn't know what was going on . . . the next day I was wiggling my toes."

"We were delighted to see him dance out of here," said Siddiqui. ■



# Examining Decision 2006

*Experts weigh in on the outcome of the general election*

By Caitlin Crawshaw

Conservative leader Stephen Harper led his party to a minority government Jan. 23, toppling the Liberal's own minority government. Now that the dust has settled, Canadians are reflecting on the election results and party campaigns, and wondering how life in Canada will change now that Harper has assumed leadership.

For University of Alberta political scientist Dr. Steve Patten, the election yielded some unpredictable results. While the Conservatives won, it was hardly a decisive victory. Canadians hesitated to support them, and the Liberals won more seats than many people expected they would, he said.

"If you think about the fact that the Liberals have been in for 13 years, that they had the sponsorship scandal, that Paul Martin as prime minister did not perform all that well, often looking indecisive, that their campaign was run quite poorly, the Conservatives could have easily won a majority," he said.

"All the Conservatives managed to do was swing six per cent of the many, many swing voters."

For Claude Denis, a University of Ottawa political scientist who spoke alongside Patten at a U of A post-election forum Jan. 26, the election was a regional story, best told by the election outcomes in BC, Ontario and Quebec. "If it were just Ontario voting in the election, we'd still have a Liberal government," he said.

In Quebec, on the other hand, 25 per cent of people voted Conservative, "about a 300-per-cent increase over the previous time."

Because Quebec represents about 25 per cent of the Canadian electorate, the massive Conservative increase in Quebec accounts for three-quarters of the six-to-seven per-cent increase across Canada.

"The change, in a lot of ways, is a Quebec story," he said.

Part of the reason for this change in Quebec, he says, is that Paul Martin's government has been plagued with an unusual number of challenges. "In this way, as much as Paul Martin has been a mediocre prime minister over the last couple of years, he's also been an extraordinarily unlucky one.

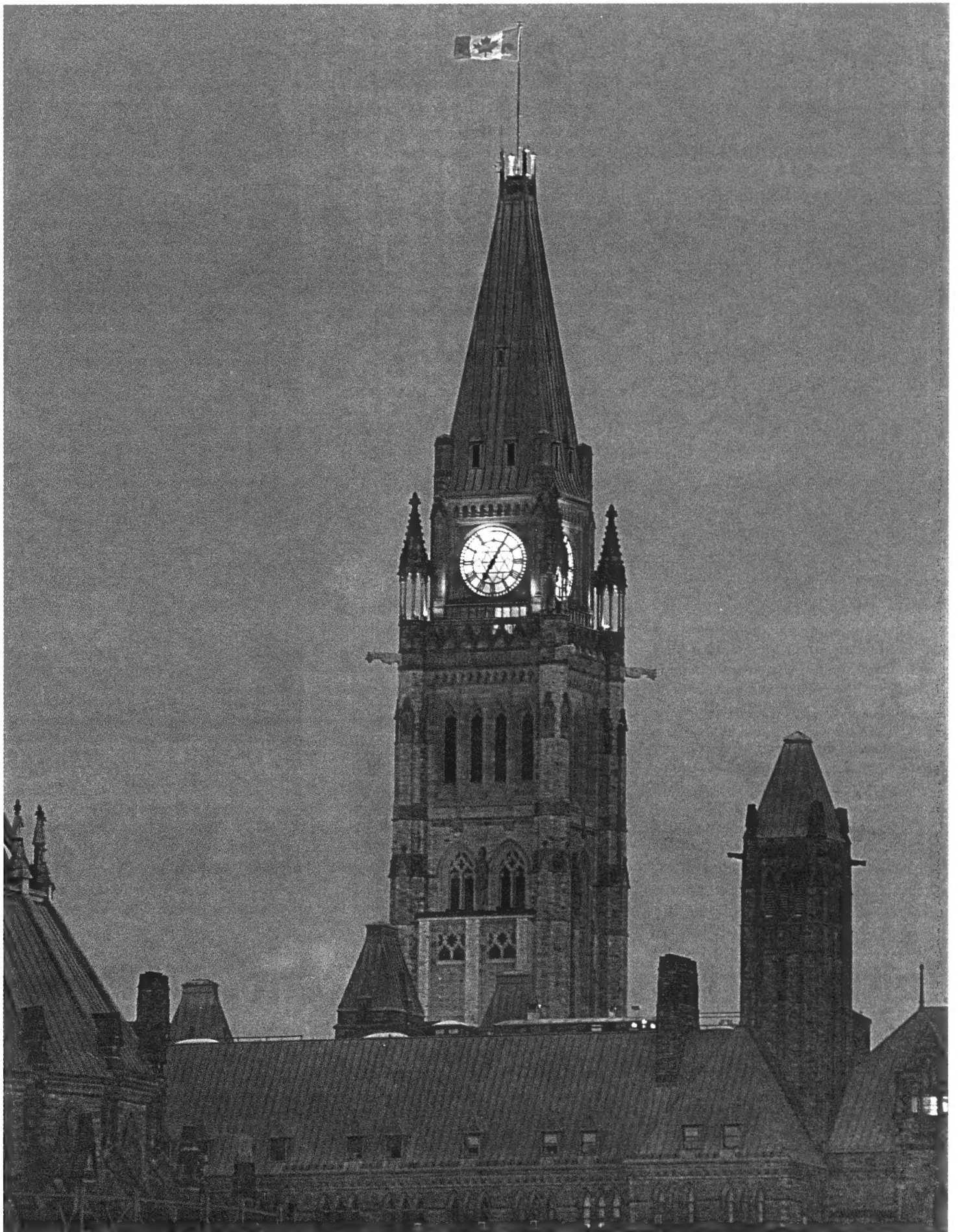
"As much as Jean Chrétien was a very lucky prime minister, Paul Martin is the exact reverse: Chrétien was the Teflon prime minister, Martin was the Velcro prime minister."

Additionally, both the Bloc and Liberals ran "empty campaigns" which didn't appeal to Quebec voters, he added.

In Patten's view, because the Conservative victory was limited, the party will have to play its cards right over the next year in order to increase its share of popular support, and ensure that when the next general election is held, it can secure a majority government.

It's critical that the Conservative party keep its more socially conservative members quiet now, in order to avoid appearing radical. "If they have hopes of winning a majority the next time, they have to continue their campaign of trying to appear moderate, keeping the candidates and members of the party quiet, and also keeping social conservative groups that align with their party quiet."

This may be a problem, Patten says, because the conservative interest groups that align with the campaign have their own agendas – and not necessarily the party's – as their end goal. Convincing these vocal groups to wait a while before pushing their own social agendas may be difficult.



This could mean that groups that condemn same-sex marriage, for instance, could urge party members to raise the issue again soon, to take advantage of the 23 Liberals in parliament who don't support same-sex marriage.

University of British Columbia political scientist Dr. Gerald Baier, who also spoke at the post-election forum, agrees that the Conservatives are in a tricky situation in some ways.

"Minority government ties the government's hands a bit with the kinds of policy decisions it can make, so tax changes, child care changes will be hard to realize in a minority government, because the natural partner is in some ways an untouchable," he said.

"The Bloc isn't someone you want to be seen as having done all your business with in elections to come."

But in Baier's view, the Conservatives

won't be slowed down by a lack of experience – they aren't rookies, as some assert. He points out that in BC, 14 out of the 17 Conservative MPs elected were incumbents, and in Alberta, 23 of 27 Conservative representatives have already served. "In fact, there are lots of incumbents, many of which with two or three terms under their belts already."

While Canada's political scene may continue to be in turmoil into 2006, economically speaking, the election results are promising, says Dr. Rolf Mirus. The Faculty of Business professor says that with the Conservatives in power, albeit with a minority, trade relations with the U.S. will likely improve. He explains that during Paul Martin's leadership, U.S. ties were weakened due to anti-American sentiments in the Liberal Party.

"I think there was some exploitation of the anti-Bush feeling, and it morphed,

I think, into anti-American feeling," said Mirus, adding that the sentiment "isn't helpful for Canada's trade interests."

According to Mirus, 40 per cent of Canadian jobs depend on exports, and 35 per cent of jobs depend on the U.S. market, "so you have to know what side your bread is buttered on," he said.

"Canadian national interest requires that we have a good trading relationship," he said. "But it doesn't mean you can't disagree. How you handle that relationship is important.

"And Harper . . . said that we're an independent Canada. What he's saying is that we're our own folks, but we have to work in a constructive way with any Washington government, and there'll be another president next time. So that's why I think this change is positive, because there'll be more emphasis on re-building a constructive engagement with the U.S." ■



# Human rights deserve international spotlight, says HIV/AIDS activist

**Stephen Lewis kicks off International Week on campus**

By Kaila Simoneau

As a self-proclaimed 'democratic socialist,' Stephen Lewis knows the meaning of "fighting in the face of futility." But at the International Week keynote address in January, the UN Special Envoy to HIV/AIDS in Africa urged young activists to continue their fight for human rights.

"Human rights lie at the centre of a decent, international, civilized society. It is necessary for all of us who care about these rights to keep fighting," Lewis told a full house at the University of Alberta's Myer Horowitz Theatre.

"There is nothing to be gained by retreat. There is nothing to be gained by futility. I will never for a moment forget to keep the good fight going."

Lewis, who formerly served as Canadian ambassador to the UN and as the executive director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), is also the director and co-founder of the Stephen Lewis Foundation, which is dedicated to helping in the struggle against HIV/AIDS. His address today, however, focused specifically on the struggle to make human rights a reality around the globe.

"I remember Kofi Annan, UN secretary general, saying somewhat mournfully that it was necessary to find alternatives to globalization and that those alternatives would be contained in the etchings of eight millennium development goals to be reached by the year 2015," he said, recounting back to the year 2000.

"This compendium of goals was embraced totally by the international community. And interestingly enough, human rights lies at the heart of all those goals. Every single one of them is a fundamental right!"

Yet, despite the original support from the international community, Lewis fears that the world is falling behind in its efforts to meet these goals by the year 2015.

"Most of these goals have been ratified and praised by country after country, but they have rarely been incorporated into

"Human rights lie at the centre of a decent, international, civilized society.

It is necessary for all of us who care about these rights to keep fighting."

— Stephen Lewis

national law," he said.

But he added that the western world tends to overlook basic human rights for political and civil rights.

"What has happened since 9-11, with the total preoccupation around terrorism and national security, is to give to the political and civil rights side of the human rights debate an even greater centrality than it had before," said Lewis.

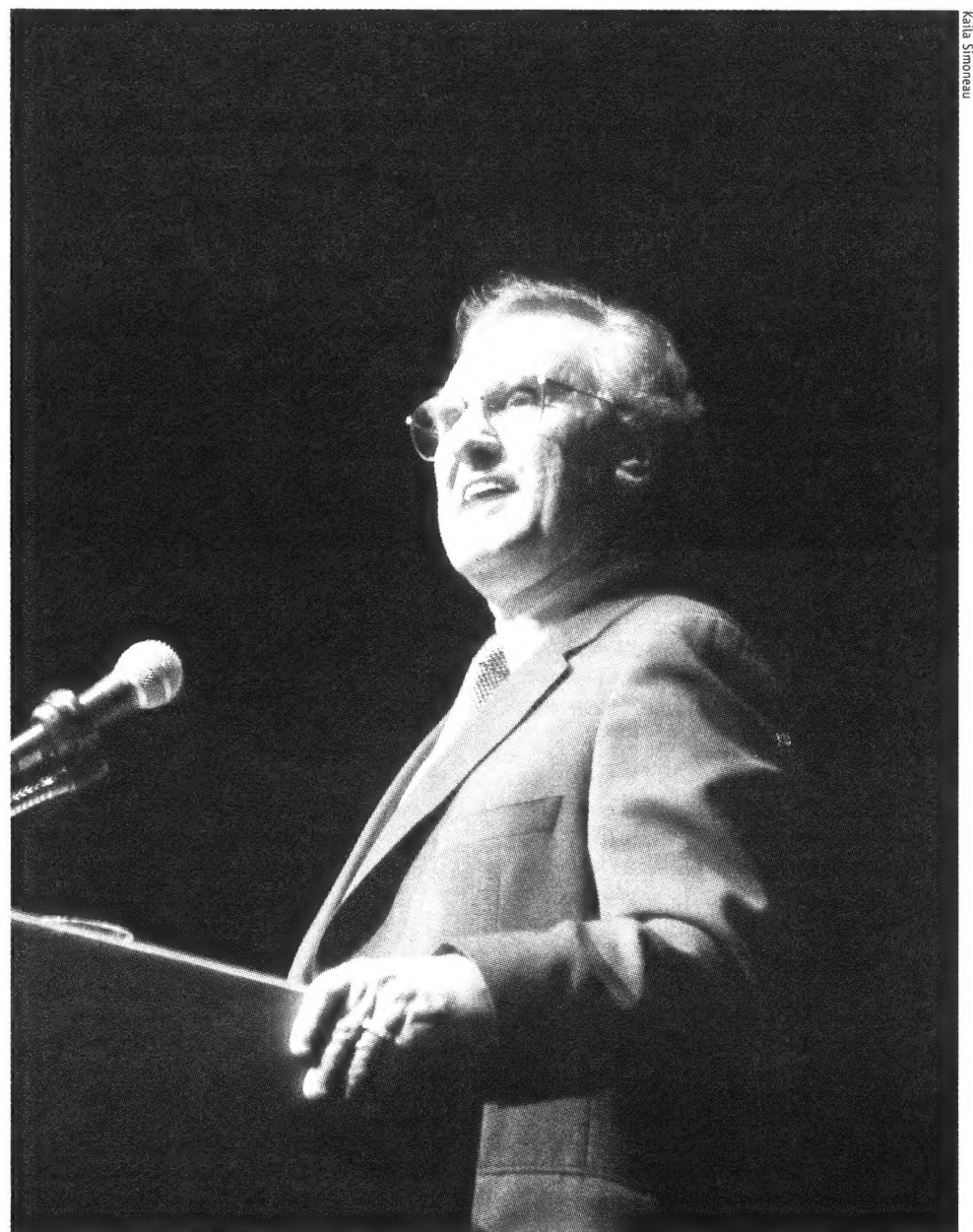
"There is something grievous about refusing to recognize the economic and social rights of this world."

According to Lewis, there are three main obstacles to the implementation of universal human rights: extreme poverty, major conflicts and wars, and the HIV/AIDS pandemic. And yet, the international community - specifically the countries of the G8 - is doing little to combat these issues.

"What is the most criminally negligent are the constant promises delivered by the G8 countries, in particular an attempt to reach 0.7 per cent of GDP for aid. There isn't a single G8 country that comes close to that.

"I look back at Rwanda and the genocide... the world said never again! And now what we see is that what they really meant was again and again and again."

Yet, despite all the obstacles that stand in the way, Lewis strongly believes that there is nothing more worthwhile than dedicating oneself to the fight for human equity.



Stephen Lewis delivered the keynote address for International Week on Jan.30, advising his audience to contribute to the fight for human rights.

"Give a chunk of your life to improve the human condition. Why are we here if not to improve the human condition?"

"I wish I weren't 68 or 69 years of age - I wish I was your age so that I could fight the good fight all over again." ■

## Tuition increased by 6.4 per cent

**Students' Union, administration link increase to decreased provincial support**

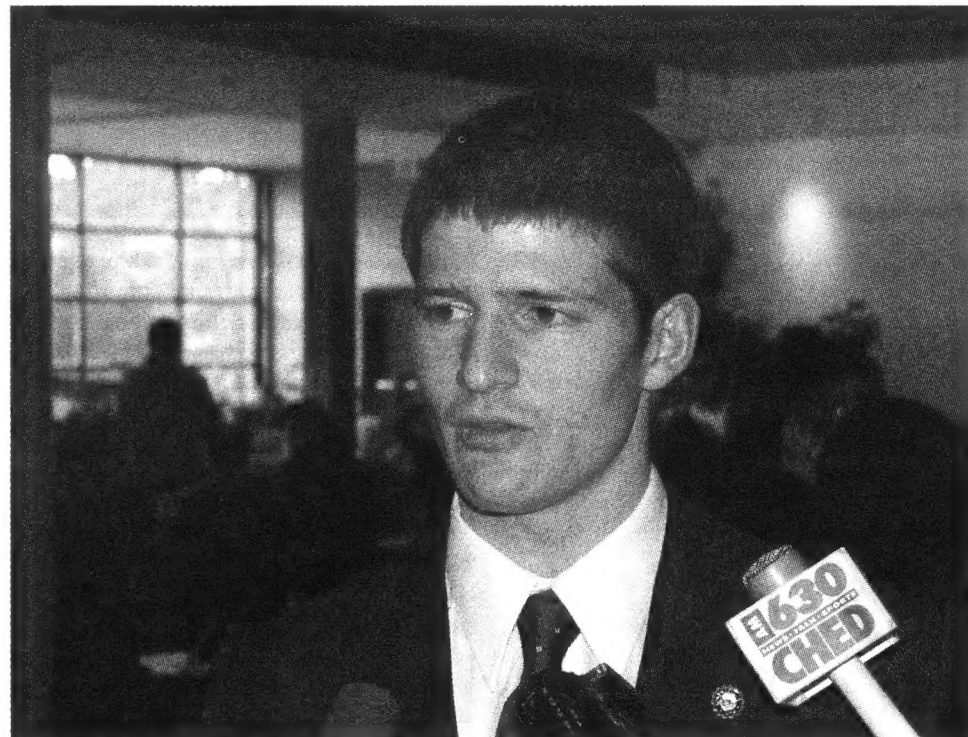
By Richard Cairney

Faced with the prospect of running up an \$11-million deficit or cutting jobs, the University of Alberta has approved a 6.4 per cent tuition increase.

"It's obvious that the reason we have a tuition problem is because we have a funding problem," Students' Union President Graham Lettner told reporters following a meeting late February. Lettner said he's worried that a second consecutive year of tuition rebates promised by the government "could just be delaying the inevitable" and that once the rebates are halted students could be hit with a massive, cumulative increase in tuition fees.

He said it is "absolutely imperative" that the provincial government completes the tuition policy it began working on more than a year ago. The Students' Union has launched a 'Roll it Back, Ralph' campaign, petitioning Alberta Premier Ralph Klein to cut tuition fees by 50 per cent.

The increase in tuition was no more popular with members of the Board of Governors than it was with students. A joint presentation by Provost and Vice-President Dr. Carl Amrhein and Vice-President (Finance and Administration) Phyllis Clark included some striking budget figures.



Students' Union President Graham Lettner talks with reporters after the announcement of a tuition increase at the U of A.

The university's utility costs have increased 166 per cent in six years, to a forecast high of \$42.5 million in 2006-07.

This year's energy costs have hit \$34.8 million, topping the budget estimate of \$30.7 million. The university received utility

"It's not an issue of tuition . . . it's total government support for post-secondary education."

— Dr. Carl Amrhein

relief from the provincial government last year and, along with the province's other post-secondary institutions, is seeking rebates for this year.

Government support has been fading for years, Amrhein added. Twenty-five years ago, the province provided \$10 in support to every \$1 of tuition. Today, that figure has dropped to \$2.30 in government support for every \$1 of tuition.

"It's not an issue of tuition . . . it's total government support for post-secondary education," Amrhein told the board.

The move will see annual tuition for typical Arts and Science students increase by \$307 to \$5,105. ■



# Rural pharmacists an untapped health-care resource says researcher

*New study explores impact of pharmacists on rural patients*

By Beverly Betkowski

“What we’re hoping to do is prove that engaging pharmacists more completely in the care of a patient will reap large benefits in terms of health outcomes.”

— Dr. Ross Tsuyuki

A University of Alberta study is setting out to show how much more there is to the white lab coats who serve you behind the pharmacy counter.

Pharmacists are willing and able to play an expanded role in more efficient health-care delivery, especially in rural Alberta, said Dr. Ross Tsuyuki, a professor of medicine and pharmacy.

“There’s huge potential there. People don’t think about pharmacists when they talk about primary health-care, and yet, typically, patients see their pharmacist much more frequently than their family physician. One of the biggest issues today is access to health-care, and yet in pharmacists, we’ve got a group of health professionals who are very accessible and who are experts in drug therapy, so we should probably use them more.”

Tsuyuki is leading a study that launches later this year throughout the province, exploring the potential and the challenges faced by pharmacists in small communities. Generally, rural-dwelling patients have poorer health than people in cities. As part of its framework, the study will quantify gaps in the care of chronic diseases such as hypertension (high blood pressure). Twenty to 25 pharmacists in communities of fewer than 10,000 people, including northern Alberta, will take part in the study, each inviting about 10 people with diabetes to take part.

Currently, treatment and control of hypertension in rural Alberta patients with diabetes “is less than optimal, with many patients not receiving proven medications and as few as one in eight reaching recommended blood pressure levels,” he said.

To enhance this new study, Tsuyuki is inviting rural Albertans to contribute



Dr. Ross Tsuyuki is exploring the potential of pharmacists in rural communities.

by sharing their pharmacy-related experiences.

Pharmacists in rural Alberta play an especially important role in patient outreach, Tsuyuki believes.

“In rural sites, it’s much more of a personal relationship,” he said.

“They usually know the physicians quite well, and they have a good rapport with the public. People come to trust and depend on their pharmacist, perhaps even more than in a big city.”

As part of the study, the pharmacists will measure patients’ blood pressure. Then, the patients are divided into two groups: one will receive counselling and

education from a nurse and pharmacist about managing their medical conditions, liaise with the family physician and undergo regular close monitoring. The other group will receive usual care – a pamphlet on high blood pressure and general advice. Both groups will be monitored for six months to see which one has the greatest drop in blood pressure.

“Patient education (for managing their conditions) is key,” Tsuyuki said. During the study, pharmacists will also review medications prescribed to the patients in relation to the Canadian guidelines for treatment of high blood pressure, and forward any suggestions to the physician.

“What we’re hoping to do is prove that engaging pharmacists more completely in the care of a patient will reap large benefits in terms of health outcomes,” Tsuyuki said.

Ultimately, Tsuyuki hopes to see pharmacists paid by the provincial government, as physicians are, for the professional services they provide. Using their expertise, pharmacists can help share the load of ensuring patients know how to take optimal care of themselves, he said. “We recognize that physicians are pretty busy and pharmacists can be part of the solution.”

The research project is funded by part of a five-year, \$1.5-million grant from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. ■

## Movement’s ‘sixth sense’

*Researcher studies how people re-learn basic movements after brain injury*

Have you ever tried to balance on one foot with your eyes closed? No problem, you think? Well, just try it.

As it happens, closing your eyes makes it very difficult to balance on one foot, because it removes some very important sensory information. Balancing is an activity that requires the proprioceptors – sensors in the muscles, tendons, and skin. These sensors detect touch, force, and changes in a muscle’s length in order to sense movement or sense the position of your limbs. Your ability to maintain the position of your body relies on the normally subconscious ability to combine sensory information from the proprioceptive, visual, and vestibular (the system in the middle ear which senses movements of the head) systems.

“Proprioception is like a sixth sense for the production of movement,” explains Heritage Scholar Dr. Kelvin Jones. He investigates the role this sixth sense plays when people must relearn basic move-

ments and motor behaviours after brain injury.

In his investigation, Jones, a University of Alberta professor of biomedical engineering, uses a virtual reality system where the visual and force feedback resulting from movement can be separately altered. Using this system, a task such as moving the hand to the right might result in a completely opposite on-screen movement. “The motor command that the brain puts out no longer gives the subjects the output visually that they’re sensing from their movements,” Jones said of the experiments. “The brain has to figure out how to reprogram the movements of the arm in order to get the desired outcome. The big problem is that the proprioceptive system and the visual system are giving conflicting information.”

To study the adaptation that occurs when people do tasks of this sort, Jones records the neural activity coming from the proprioceptor sensors in the muscles.

He expected to find that the brain makes the sensors fire a lot faster when learning this type of challenging task that separates the visual and proprioceptive systems. In fact, he discovered the opposite: that those people who can quickly “turn off” their proprioception learn the task more quickly. Meanwhile, those rare people who have lost their proprioceptive fibres due to disease have no problem whatsoever with the tasks because there is no conflict between their visual and their proprioceptive sensory systems.

In another branch of his research, Jones works on a computer-based tool to help diagnose ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, also known as Lou Gehrig’s disease), a neurodegenerative disease in which motor nerve cells gradually die. Some of Jones’ interest in restoring movement stems from his days as a graduate student, when the case of ALS patient Sue Rodriguez was in the media and before the courts.

Faced with the gradual wasting away

“Proprioception is like a sixth sense for the production of movement.”

— Dr. Kelvin Jones

of her muscles and the certainty of her eventual death, Rodriguez sought the legal right to assisted suicide. She lost the right-to-die battle in the courts, but ultimately took her own life anyway, with the help of a doctor.

“It was a real bioethics awakening in me in terms of what it would mean to a person who was losing the ability to move,” said Jones. “Sue’s case had a real impact on me.” ■

(This article first appeared in the fall/winter 2005 issue of AHFMR news)



# Alberta-China research lab receives \$500,000 boost

Collaboration aims to accelerate research

By Folio staff

New funding for a collaborative research venture between the University of Alberta and China's Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) hopes to accelerate scientific breakthroughs in Alberta and China.

On Jan. 17, a \$500,000 funding boost for The Joint Research Laboratory project was announced. On top of \$350,000 in new monies from the Alberta government, the U of A has committed another \$150,000. In China, the research will be conducted in key laboratories.

The joint research project will focus on three main areas of research: nanotechnology, environment and energy. Projects will be identified and agreed to based on their importance and interest to both Alberta and China. The first five joint research projects have been approved and scientists from both sides will begin working together this year.

"This collaboration with China's Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) and its top laboratories will lead to outstanding joint research, and create new models for international research collaboration. This is an important start of an ongoing partnership with MOST through the U of A's new China Institute," said Dr. Gary Kachanoski, vice-president (research) at the University of Alberta and the joint project lead.

This project was made possible by a three-year agreement signed in October 2005 between the U of A and MOST. The framework for this agreement was created during Premier Klein's China Mission in



Gary Kachanoski

"This collaboration with China's Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) and its top laboratories will lead to outstanding joint research, and create new models for international research collaboration."

— Dr. Dr. Gary Kachanoski

June 2004, when he signed a memorandum of understanding on scientific and technological cooperation with the ministry in the government of the People's Republic of China.

The funding announcement was made by Victor Doerksen, minister of Alberta innovation and science, while speaking to Chinese officials in Beijing, China during a 12-day technology mission to China and California to promote the province's research and development opportunities.

"This investment in research and technology taps into global opportunities made possible by a strong collaboration with scientists in Alberta and China," said Doerksen.

"Partnering with China makes sense, because joint efforts will position Alberta to develop technologies for the China market." ■

# Universe will end with a bang, or a whimper, says Vatican astronomer

Argues that predicted end of the universe doesn't disprove God, the human soul

By Caitlin Crawshaw

While some pit science against faith, a Vatican astronomer contends that science is, in fact, a very Christian pursuit, but that it alone cannot answer all of life's big questions.

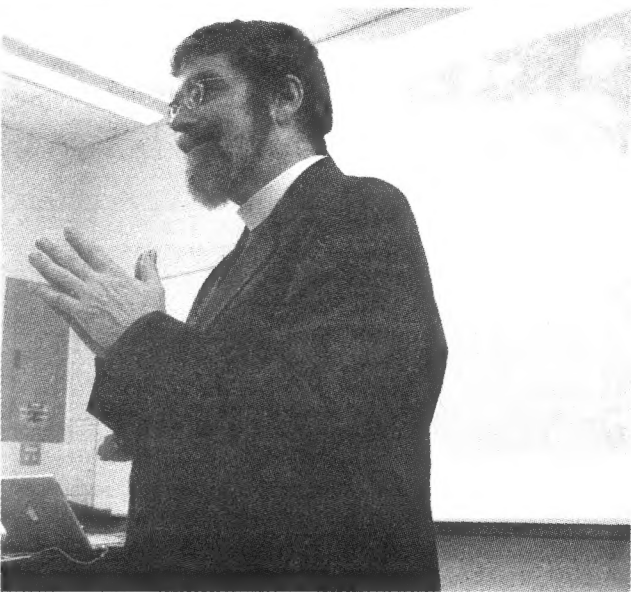
Guy Consolmagno of the Vatican Observatory visited the University of Alberta campus on Wednesday, Jan. 25, to speak about the challenges of reconciling the scientific evidence that predicts a gloomy end to the universe with God's love of the world and the immortality of the soul.

Consolmagno explained the evidence for the Big Bang theory, which is generally accepted as the cause of the universe's creation, to a capacity crowd in the Education Building. The theory generally conceptualizes a universe that began, 10-20 billion years ago from a single point of extremely compressed matter and space that expanded outward. The theory also explains present scientific evidence of an expanding universe, which is being pushed apart by 'dark energy' at an ever-quicken pace.

"Not only does the Big Bang give us an idea of the beginning of the universe, but an ultimate fate," said Consolmagno.

It is hard to say precisely what the universe's end will look like, he added, but "either it will end with a bang, or it'll end with a whimper."

What's more, the Laws of Thermodynamics predict a sudden "heat death" of the universe, when all stars have died and an ever-expanding empty universe fills with expanding radiation.



Guy Consolmagno of the Vatican Observatory waxes philosophic about the nature of the universe and God.

While the universe may be slated for destruction billions of years from now, Consolmagno doesn't believe this suggests the physical world lacks eternal meaning. Physics cannot explain a great deal about nature, including the existence of the soul, and the world's splendour, he noted.

Van Gogh's work *Starry Night* is such an example, said Consolmagno.

"I can scientifically tell you all sorts of interesting scientific facts about every dab of paint in the painting. I can tell you the chemicals present, I can tell you why it reflects light in those particular colours, I can measure the wavelengths. Science isn't

going to tell you why this is a gorgeous painting," he said.

"That requires the human intellect to interpret those dabs of paint and say, 'Those are stars, this is Van Gogh.' And Van Gogh's paintings are not photographs, it's up to us to take those dabs of colours, those bits of paint, and add our own imagination to complete the picture. In that way, the picture and the painter enter into our soul."

He emphasized that paradoxes exist in the physical world, and that while reconciling God and the universe's end in a single theory cannot be easily done, it doesn't

"God made this universe, and made us a part of it, and what's more, Christianity says that God so loved the world that he actually incarnated himself into it to become a part of it."

— Guy Consolmagno

negate the idea of eternal physical life, as indicated in the Bible.

"The best we can do is to speak in poetry. The best we can do is to talk about paradoxes of body that are, at the same time, the same but different from the bodies that we know now," he said.

"It is a paradox, but that doesn't mean that it's unreal, or even unfamiliar. We can understand that, in some sense, the centre of human identity - call it if you want the soul - can maintain a hypothetical existence even in the absence of a particular physical manifestation, in the same way that the idea of a song or a poem can live on even after every copy of it has been destroyed."

While some argue that there's a divide between science and religion, and that good Christians shouldn't pursue science, Consolmagno argues that contemplating the big questions is an inherently Christian activity, since "God loves the world."

"God made this universe, and made us a part of it, and what's more, Christianity says that God so loved the world that he actually incarnated himself into it to become a part of it. If nothing else, that means that this physical world means something to this God. And that's one reason why doing science is a Christian thing to do."

He added that it's also a Jewish and an Islamic thing to do. "Any book that believes in the creation of the universe by a good God is what gives you the motivation to do science." ■



# World’s largest hope database inspires record numbers

*Hope-Lit is attracting international attention*

By Dawn Ford

Interest in the study of hope is exploding worldwide, according to a hope researcher at the University of Alberta.

Dr. Denise Larsen, a professor of educational psychology and director of research for the Hope Foundation, says that although academics, health-care providers, educators and many other professionals have long recognized the power of hope, only recently has it become an area of study in high demand. And much of this is due to a new database on hope literature.

Developed by The Hope Foundation of Alberta and the U of A Faculty of Education, and officially launched on Jan. 30 during Hope Week, Hope-Lit is now the most comprehensive public database on hope anywhere in the world. And it is drawing wide-spread attention.

“We are literally swamped with interest in the study of hope. This year alone, at least a dozen prospective graduate students from across Canada have travelled to Edmonton to meet with me. In addition, response to our Post-Doctoral Fellowship in Hope has drawn applicants from around the globe including the U.S. India, China, Iran and Australia,” said Larsen.

Until the early 1990s, scientific databases were virtually silent on the topic of hope. None of the common databases like PsychINFO or Medicine included hope as a searchable term. “Hope was simply not on the scientific research radar,” said Larsen, who first began working on an online searchable database in 2004 as a new faculty member.

At the time, she and her hope colleague, Dr. Wendy Edey, were exploring the Internet when they uncovered a database of happiness literature. “We thought, ‘Wouldn’t it be phenomenal to have all of the hope literature contained in one source?’ ”

“Hope-Lit makes it possible to find much of the latest research on hope quickly, no matter where it is happening in the world.”

— Dr. Denise Larsen

Larsen envisioned a comprehensive index of research for students taking her hope course and for graduate students researching the topic. Larsen teamed up with a university librarian to begin the task of perusing all of the interdisciplinary databases, literally searching for signs of hope.

With more than 2,200 full references, the database can be searched by key word or specific index headings. It spans a huge array of subjects including addictions and substance abuse, chronic illness, death and dying, development theories, disability, education, ethics, infertility, mental health, trauma, and HIV / AIDS to name a few. The database is kept current through an automated ‘hope search strategy’ which communicates with other interdisciplinary databases around the world.

“This is an important one-of-a-kind database. Hope-Lit makes it possible to find much of the latest research on hope quickly, no matter where it is happening in the world. Hope study is very much an interdisciplinary field. We are able to quickly locate important hope resources across disciplines. This makes it easier for us to network with researchers around the world,” said Larsen, who will be hosting an International visiting scholar from Australia and expects to host three other visiting scholars over the next two years.



Database creator Dr. Denise Larsen.

She adds that collaborative initiatives are growing.

What interests her most right now is a counselling psychology research project. Through The Hope Foundation, Larsen and her team are investigating actual in-session interventions that may affect client hope.

“This is some of the first research world-wide to look at how hope can be intentionally used to impact therapeutic effectiveness,” she said. “Research now tells us a great deal about just what hope is as well as its incredible impact on human well-being. Higher hope is virtually always related to better life outcomes. We also know that hope is one of four universal

factors that impact the effectiveness of psychological therapy.”

The Hope Foundation of Alberta is a non-profit organization situated in the Hope House on the University of Alberta campus. It is dedicated to the study and enhancement of hope in individuals, families, and institutions. The focus of the organization is on hope application and practices in social services, medical services, and educational settings. Research programs run in conjunction with the community services offered. Each year staff at the Hope Foundation offer workshops and courses to about 3,500 individuals, locally and nationally. ■

# The oldest ‘profession’ harms women and society, experts argue

*International Week speakers explore human trafficking, the global sex trade*

By Gilbert A. Bouchard

Human trafficking and the global sex trade comprise the third-largest and fastest-growing international crime industry after arms and drugs, says a Swedish activist.

About 7,500 foreign nationals are trafficked in the United States alone every year, “and 200,000 American children are at risk for entry into the sex trade,” said Margareta Winberg, speaking as part of the U of A’s International Week evening keynote event.

“The prostitution industry is expanding in a free-market economy where women and girls are seen as highly saleable commodities,” added Winberg, a long-time feminist activist and politician who now serves as Swedish ambassador to Brazil. Prior to her appointment as Brazilian ambassador in 2003, Winberg served nine years in the Swedish government including posts as minister for gender equality and as deputy prime minister.

“Trafficking of women is a concern for all citizens and not just for feminists. There is a clear link between prostitution and human trafficking which means you can’t address the trafficking issue without talking about prostitution and its root causes.”

Her talk, entitled Trafficking in Women & Girls: Today’s Slavery, a Shame for a Civilized Society, addressed the global sex trade in light of Sweden’s decision to outlaw male purchasing of sexual services

in 1999, defining prostitution as a form of sexual violence against women.

“The idea was to outlaw prostitution as exploitation, but choosing to not punish the sex workers who are in effect the ones being exploited,” she said, adding that the goal of “full gender equality” is at the heart of the radical anti-prostitution law.

“We’re saying that in Sweden, women and children are not for sale.”

According to Winberg, the battle against international human trafficking and prostitution needs to focus in on male demand, painting the desire to purchase sexual acts as being “harmful to society at large” and “a patriarchal tool of oppression and male violence used to control women as a class.”

This logic led to the 1999 Swedish law that targets the purchasing of sexual services, seeking to criminalize men buying those services.

At the same time the law was rolled out, Sweden enacted a broad range of special social programs including educational and employment incentives to get sex workers off the streets, claiming a 60-per-cent success rate, she says, adding that 80 per cent of the population of Sweden supports the law.

“Prostitution can never be seen as job,” said Winberg.

Also speaking on the same program was Dr. Sitoshi Ikeda, a professor with

the University of Alberta’s Department of Sociology. Presenting a talk entitled Prostitution: An Economic Opportunity for Women or Violence Against Women? Ikeda addressed prostitution issues from his studies in globalization. He looked at male oppression against women in light of the dominant free-market ideology that has been acting as a force behind recent efforts to legalize prostitution.

“Legalized prostitution follows the neo-liberal logic that the market outcome is always best, regardless of social conditions,” he said.

Asserting that the hold of sexist and “masculinist” attitudes in Canada are still strong, as exhibited by the stubborn wage differential between men and women in equivalent employment, and statically high levels of sexual violence, Ikeda believes free-market ideologues have been steadily lobbying to separate human traffic and prostitution since the 1980s.

As a case in point, Ikeda noted that The Economist magazine attacked Sweden’s 1999 anti-prostitution law, arguing that you can (and should) do nothing about prostitution, given that it was simply a way of life.

“Since the 1980s we’ve seen a push to define prostitution as a choice or a potentially empowering act,” he said. “The latest ‘movement’ by pro-prostitution groups is to separate forced trafficking from volun-

“The prostitution industry is expanding in a free-market economy where women and girls are seen as highly saleable commodities.”

— Margareta Winberg

teer trafficking. For example, Asian women choosing to enter Australia to work in the sex trade.”

Ikeda questions the logical foundations of these ‘free market’ arguments, stating that it seems questionable to put forward the sex trade as a legitimate career option when every encounter could be seen as an act of “sexual harassment in the workplace”.

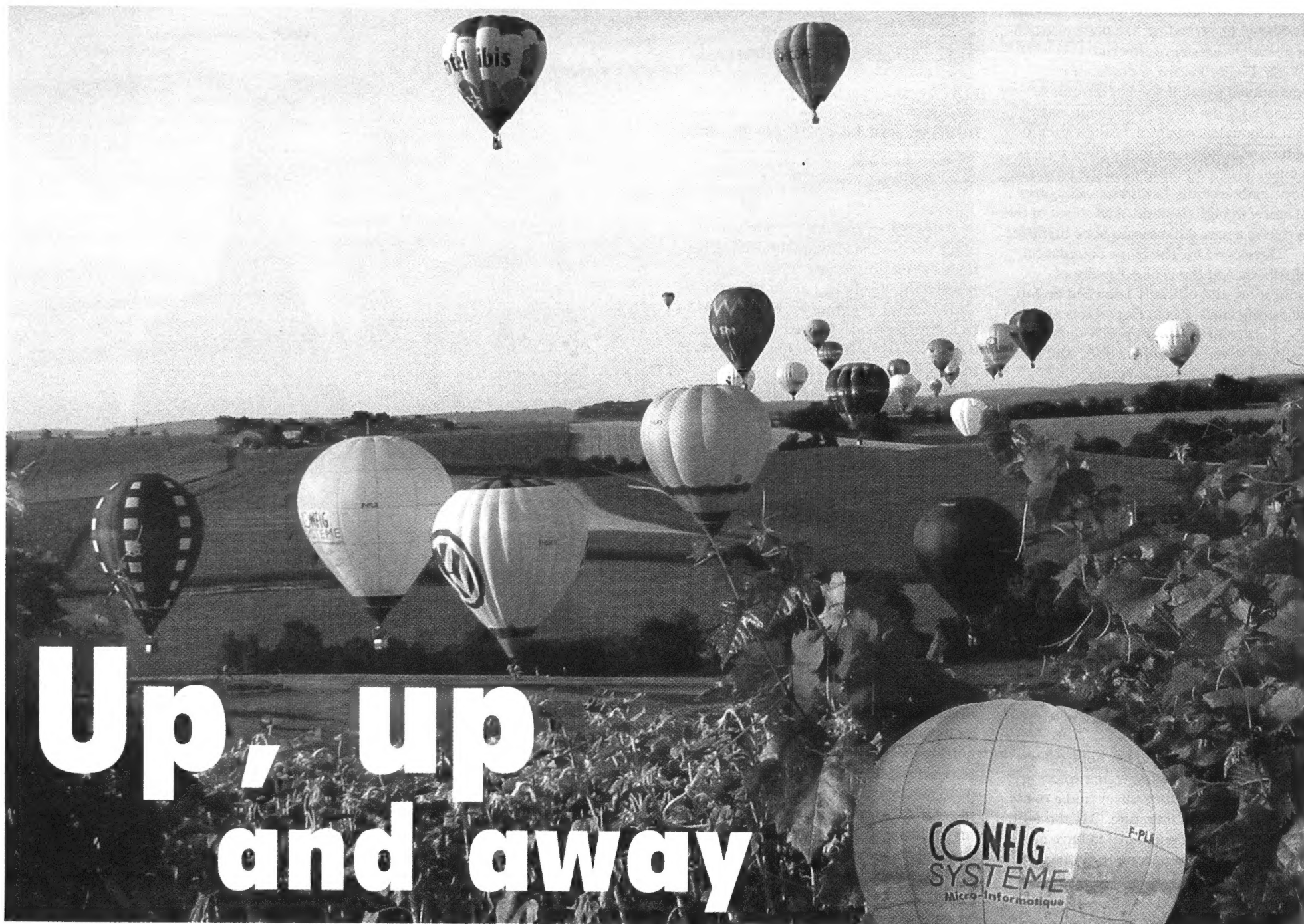
He also sees the question of consent as troublesome, given how many women in the international sex trade hail from economically or politically embattered regions which drastically limits their options and autonomy.

International Week:  
<http://www.international.ualberta.ca/global.php?id=199>

View videos on the U of A’s international impact:

<http://www.ualberta.ca/~publicas/folio/43/09/special/index.html> ■





Jean-François Colombe (France)

# Up, up and away

## Balloon-enthusiast reaches new heights

By Geoff McMaster

On his 45th birthday Alex Nagorski took Walter Cronkite for a ride in a hot-air balloon.

That's right, Walter Cronkite, the icon of American broadcast journalism. Even Nagorski had to pinch himself later when Cronkite and his wife sang him Happy Birthday (badly) over champagne in a French farmer's field.

A team leader with the U of A's Academic Information and Communication Technologies (AICT) and long-time ballooning enthusiast, Nagorski just happened to be participating in a balloon event at Malcolm Forbes' chateau in France in 1991. He was asked if Conkrite could tag along, and Nagorski couldn't see any reason why not.

"I let Walter take the controls (nothing puts you on a first-name basis faster than sharing a basket at 1,000 feet), because he had taken some lessons with Malcolm Forbes," said Nagorski.

"He was very easy going, and we started talking like we had known each other for years. He made you feel very at ease, just a regular guy. Afterwards we sat in a field and Conkrite and the crew sang me happy birthday. He can't sing, and his wife apologized, and yet...well you know how dramatic his voice is otherwise."

The field where they celebrated was only 15 or 20 miles from the site of the famous D-Day invasion during the Second World War. Cronkite had arrived two days after the invasion as a member of the press corps, "and so he told me some of the stories," says Nagorski. "It was a fantastic experience."

Hot air ballooning has brought layers of richness to Nagorski's life. It has been, on many levels, his window on the world.

On the wall of his office on the third floor of the General Services Building is a map covered in little red dots marking all the faraway places ballooning has carried him.

He's officiated at the World Air Games in Spain. He's also been to Australia, Japan, France, Lithuania and South Korea, either officiating or helping to organize events. Next month he's off to Moscow for the annual meeting of the ballooning commission of the Internationale Aeronautique Federation. He is the past president of the Canadian Balloon Association and the current Canadian representative on the international ballooning commission.

In other words, he's a high flyer in the ballooning world. But as with many of the twists and turns life throws at us, Nagorski ended up in the sport almost by default.

"I wanted to be a pilot since I was a kid in the 1960s," he says. "I couldn't get into the air force because of my eyesight. That flying bug lay dormant for a long time until I saw a balloon one day flying over the city and thought, 'Mmm, there must be a club around here.'"

So Nagorski joined the Edmonton Balloon club in 1980 and after passing a much easier aviation medical and a couple of Transport Canada exams, he was up, up and away. He racked up 75 flights in his first year, attracted as much by the social life as the joy of flying.

Or could it be the champagne consumed religiously at the end of every flight, a proud tradition that goes back more than 200 years?

"When the Montgolfiere brothers (the inventors of the hot-air balloon) first started flying in 1783, people wouldn't know what this thing was coming at them

from the sky," says Nagorski. Thinking the balloons were dragons, the peasants would rush at the balloons with pitchforks and try to kill them.

"They were losing too many balloons," says Nagorski, so the pilots started carrying champagne and food. "When they landed, they would socialize with the people."

In the early 1980s, when Nagorski started flying, his ambition was to compete in competitive events, but it didn't take him long to discover officiating was his true calling. He was asked in 1988 to serve as a safety officer in the Canadian championships in Red Deer, and his ultimate R&R career took off from there.

"I thought this was kind of fun, and so was asked for more and more events, and then got into other responsibilities and then got involved internationally."

Competitive ballooning involves a variety of contests. One, for instance, requires pilots to navigate to targets under specific wind conditions. The pilot flies from target to target, lowering it enough to hit each one with a beanbag before moving on to the next within a given time limit. It's like darts on a huge scale—competitors are judged on how close they get their bags to the centre of the target.



Under light wind conditions, the event director might call for a minimum-distance task, challenging balloonists to cover the least possible distance in, say, 45 minutes. Other contests might require balloonists to cover the longest possible distance.

As for the danger of the sport, Nagorski contends it's relatively safe, as long as pilots and crew are properly trained, observe the rules and monitor the weather. By far the worst thing that can happen is contact with power lines, he says. The current can form an arc between two metal parts in the basket, such as the frame and the propane tank, and the results can be fatal.

"Power lines have killed more balloonists and passengers than anything else... but it's the kind of thing you make people very aware of when they train."

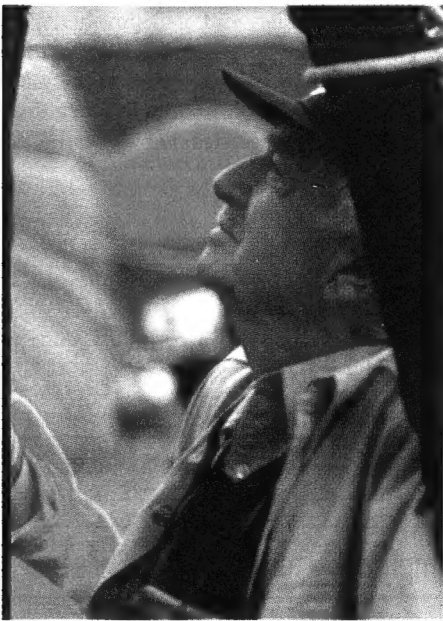
Even falling from the sky in the event of a "flame out," or running out of fuel, isn't as bad as it might seem. The basket will come down about as fast as it would with a parachute, says Nagorski: "You'd hit hard, but you'd survive."

The worst condition Nagorski has faced is fog, making it impossible to see the ground or power lines. "It's happened to me twice... Once it just rolled right under me, but at least you know which way is down." Fortunately he managed to land safely.

As with anything worthwhile, there are certainly risks, he says, but they are minimal with a good dose of common sense. And nothing beats the sheer beauty of balloon, blue sky and breathtaking landscape, paired with the knowledge that quite possibly you're the only one ever to have seen it from precisely this perspective, he adds. ■



Hot-air balloons at the Australian Nationals in 2003



Middle row, from left to right: Broadcast journalism icon Walter Cronkite takes in the Malcolm Forbes Balloon Fest in 1991; Cronkite and a fellow balloonist at the same event; Cronkite and Nagorski, also taken at the French Event.



Balloonists take flight at France's Coupe d'Europe, in 2005.



## Mandatory Retirement is Unreasonable Age Discrimination and Should be Abolished

By Dr. Ronald N. McElhaney

The University of Alberta is considering an important issue with great impact on the future of the institution. Mandatory retirement is being examined by an Administration – AASUA Task Force. I offer the following comments on this issue, which I have studied in recent years, in an effort to stimulate dialogue and debate. My comments are influenced by an excellent book on this subject (Time's Up. Mandatory Retirement in Canada, edited by C.T. Gillin, D. MacGregor and T.R. Klassen, a CAUT Series Titles published by James Lorimer and Company in 2005).

The Supreme Court of Canada found in 1990 that mandatory retirement at age 65 is a form of age discrimination but, by a majority 6-3 decision, concluded it is justified because it is part of the usual organization of labour in this country. The majority justices viewed mandatory retirement as permissible for the private sector because it allows deferred compensation, facilitates recruitment and avoids ongoing productivity reviews of older workers, while permitting employers and employees to plan for their financial futures. The question, then, is whether or not the purported benefits of mandatory retirement are of sufficient importance to justify what, to most knowledgeable observers, is regarded as a violation of the Charter rights of older workers.

The debate on mandatory retirement should consider demographic and labour market trends, especially since immigration currently has only a marginal impact of population aging and labour supply. With improvements in health, the rates of morbidity and serious disability have declined markedly, in conjunction with

a steadily rising life expectancy. A small and ever-shrinking fraction of Canadians reaching 65 report a disability severe enough to compromise their ability to work. Population growth is slowing, in turn slowing labour force growth, and the population is aging. Under these circumstances, mandatory retirement has a negative effect on the economy, since retired workers pay less income, sales and payroll taxes while drawing public and private retirement benefits. The adverse economic impact is not compensated for by the hiring of an equal number of younger workers – these inexperienced individuals are usually hired at lower salaries. Contractual mandatory retirement also has an adverse economic effect by withdrawing the most experienced workers from the labour force. Overall, the impending fiscal stresses resulting from an aging population and a shrinking workforce argue strongly for the abolishment of mandatory retirement.

The validity of the Supreme Court's views about the social and economic utility of mandatory retirement is particularly problematic in the context of university faculty. Professors, like many other professionals, undergo a long period of education and training and enjoy a much shorter period of employment than most other workers. University faculty enjoy more freedom and job security, are more highly paid, and report much greater job satisfaction than the average worker. Thus, a considerable number of faculty do not wish to retire at 65. In addition, the majority of university professors undergo regular, rigorous performance assessments and can be terminated for inadequate perfor-

mance. Because this evaluation process would continue for professors working beyond age 65, the often-voiced concern about university faculties accumulating large numbers of unproductive members, should mandatory retirement be abolished, is unfounded. As well, the requirement for opening slots for new faculty currently has much-diminished significance with the increasing voluntary early and normal-age retirements of faculty in the baby boom generation, and the growing shortage of highly qualified young candidates for faculty positions. Indeed, mandatory retirement has become a serious competitive disadvantage in jurisdictions which retain it, particularly in regard to attracting outstanding middle-aged faculty. Studies in the United States have shown professors who choose to work past age 65 are the most energetic and committed faculty who, as a group, are actually more effective teachers, researchers and leaders than are younger faculty. A growing contingent of faculty are women and recent immigrants, who typically began their academic careers later than men, and these groups are particularly disadvantaged by mandatory retirement. Women who have taken time off for child rearing are especially hard hit by compulsory retirement.

In closing, let me quote the final paragraph from the introduction to Time's Up, the book to which I referred: "Arguing for the eradication of mandatory retirement is not a ground for lengthening the paid employment of most Canadians. Rather, it is an argument for justice for those who need or wish to work beyond a fixed age and for increased institutional adaptability

for all employees to determine their own date of retirement. Flexibility in the organization of paid employment and retirement is necessary to meet the varied needs of an increasingly diverse population – to permit a variety of work arrangements in the later years of employment, to ensure adequate and secure income, to meet the labour needs of the economy, to enhance freedom for individuals, and to build and strengthen the Canadian community. Age sixty-five as a marker for forced retirement is arbitrary. Supporters and critics alike agree it is a form of age discrimination. The question is whether the practice can be justified."

I believe that the clear answer to the question posed above is "no", since mandatory retirement cannot now (if ever) be justified as a reasonable limit of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedom's guarantee that Canadian citizens cannot be discriminated against on the basis of age. Imagine how society would react if the Supreme Court were to find that discrimination by gender, age, or religion were reasonable because it facilitated recruitment and planning or avoided ongoing performance reviews! Why should arbitrary discrimination based on age be treated in any different manner than discrimination based on any other factor?

Thus, I would argue that the abolition of mandatory retirement at the University of Alberta would not only be good social and academic policy, but also simply the right thing to do. Other jurisdictions in Canada and elsewhere in the Western world have increasingly come to recognize this fact in recent decades. Let us do the same. ■

## Academic advocacy: Career suicide or ethical obligation?

By Dr. Lee Foote

Academics are constantly sliding around the cutting edge of new knowledge. Their discoveries can be esoteric and inane, or profoundly useful. Yet, surprisingly few researchers feel comfortable describing their new findings in terms of what they mean for policy change, political action or changes needed in public action.

For many academics, it is seen as a risky exposure to criticism and as something not expected of their job. Conversely, others believe it to be an implicit obligation for well-educated individuals supported by tax dollars, and provided with several layers of protection (access to peer review, tenure and a workplace that encourages them to be "public intellectuals") to be very public about the relevance of their research.

From the horse's mouth, we need a clear statement of what was found, what it means, and how it should affect societal decision-making. Aside from the perceived risks of public embarrassment, supporters of non-advocacy say that to advocate places one on a slippery slope shared with activism, propaganda, compromised objectivity and partisanship that lowers the credibility of their research, their reputation and their field's reputation.

Consequently, a tremendous amount of valuable and expensive information remains buried in files, reports and obscure journals. Responsible advocacy would have brought this work to forums that could benefit people.

So what constitutes responsible academic advocacy and what are the prerequisites? There are at least four:

(1) Scientific credibility is a prerequisite for academics to effectively advocate. Public expectations are somewhat higher for us than for non-academics.

(2) Make clear the weaknesses, uncertainties, degree of variability and assumptions inherent in the advocated position and say why the position is supported in spite of those aspects. Future predictions (e.g. statements about climate, forest fire incidence, disease outbreaks) are never certain.

(3) Advocated positions need peer review before being taken to the public.

(4) Recognition that there may be career costs to advocating; some will see advocacy as a loss of objectivity. This is inevitable. However, many others will laud the advocate.

At a recent seminar, I spoke out in favour of academic advocacy to an audience of 100 colleagues and students. When asked for comments, several things became apparent. There was general agreement that there was a relationship between an academic's stature/credibility and how well-accepted their advocated message might be, irrespective of message accuracy. There are different norms and degrees of collegial support for advocacy across disciplines. Whereas social advocacy about equity, rights and justice is encouraged

If the public grows tired of academics simply collecting "facts" and has to continually gain interpretation from other sources, our usefulness declines.

Public support will likely wane and universities can be cast as expensive and irrelevant tax drains.

even in junior faculty members in social sciences such as sociology, anthropology and political science, the more mechanistic or deterministic sciences tend to simply report findings and leave implications to interpretation of their audiences and funding agencies.

If the public grows tired of academics simply collecting "facts" and has to continually gain interpretation from other sources, our usefulness declines. Public support will likely wane and universities can be cast as expensive and irrelevant tax drains.

To remain solvent, tuition increases, feverish grant-seeking, endowment mining and incessant recruitment for enrolment become necessary. These aspects already siphon off too much productive research time from academics. We must work to remain relevant to society.

The draft version of Dare to Discover <http://www.president.ualberta.ca/dare-todiscover.cfm> set out by University of Alberta president Indira Samarasekera contains language encouraging research relevance to society. New and reliable knowledge should be advocated by academics in scientific circles, in the media and in their classrooms. Who is better prepared to present a bias-controlled, peer-reviewed, and clearly worded assessment of issues than professional truth-seekers?

It is only through responsible advocacy and outreach beyond our cloistered circles that academic stature, value and indispensability are retained.

Dr. Lee Foote is a professor in the University of Alberta Department of Renewable Resources, within the Faculty of Agriculture, Forestry, and Home Economics. ■



# talks & events

Submit talks and events to Lorraine Neumayer by 12 p.m. Thursday one week prior to publication. **Folio Talks and Events listings do not accept submissions via fax, mail, e-mail or phone. Please enter events you'd like to appear in Folio and on ExpressNews at: <http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/events/submit.cfm>.** A more comprehensive list of events is available online at [www.events.ualberta.ca](http://www.events.ualberta.ca).

## UNTIL - MAR 16 2006

**Conserving Biodiversity in Northern Cities**  
Leading researchers from around the globe will be speaking about conservation issues within northern cities. The series is free of charge and open to the public. Registration is not required. 4:30 p.m. Engineering Teaching Learning Complex Room 1 007. <http://www.ualberta.ca/ERSC/es.htm>

## UNTIL NOV 30 2006

**Call for Proposals, 2006 Annual Conference of the Canadian Society for Bioengineering**  
Call for presentations and papers for the 2006 Annual Conference of the Canadian Society for Bioengineering, on July 16-19th, 2006, in Edmonton, Alberta. The theme of the conference is "Seeing I to I - Integrity and Integration in Bioengineering". Submit your proposal related to bioengineering in: food and bio-products; agricultural production; machinery systems; soil, water, and air; building systems; animal welfare; information technology; waste management and bio-residuals; renewable energy and biofuels; emerging technologies and issues. Submit your proposal by March 15th, 2006. Fantasyland Hotel and Conference Centre, West Edmonton Mall, Edmonton, AB. <http://www.bioeng.ca/Events/Edm2006/index.htm>

## UNTIL APR 6 2006

**Visit the University of Alberta's Observatory**  
Every Thursday evening from 8 - 9 p.m. the observatory is open to the public. Everybody is welcome and admission is free. Star clusters, planets, nebulae and the moon will be visible through our telescopes. We are located on the roof of the Physics Building. Take the elevators to the 6th floor and walk up the final set of stairs. 8:00 p.m. Physics Building, 7th floor and rooftop. <http://www.phys.ualberta.ca/research/astro/observ.php>

## UNTIL FEB 13 2006

**Call for Nominations - GFC Member**  
Nominations are currently being sought to fill the position of a non-NASA (Non-Academic Staff Association), non-academic staff member of General Faculties Council (GFC) for a term of three (3) years. Currently, this position is vacant. To be eligible, a nominee must be a member of the University's non-academic staff complement and must not be a member of NASA. If you are interested in this position, please contact Mr. Garry Bodnar, Secretary to GFC, at 492-4733 or [garry.bodnar@ualberta.ca](mailto:garry.bodnar@ualberta.ca) by 2:00 p.m., Nominations may also be dropped off in person to the University Secretariat at 2-5 University Hall. University Secretariat.

## UNTIL FEB 14 2006

**HUB Mall's Valentine's Day Contest**  
Come by and pick up your free stuff and entry forms to win an assortment of excellent prizes. Contest open to full time University students, faculty and staff. Contest closes on February 14th at 3 p.m. sharp. Good luck! HUB Mall Administration office, Room 209 HUB. <http://www.ualberta.ca/hubmall>.

## UNTIL FEB 3 2006

**International Week 2006 : "More Than Words: Realizing Human Rights"**  
This year International Week will feature over 50 free events. More than 5,000 attendees will take part in sessions that range from a keynote lecture by Stephen Lewis to lectures, panels, workshops, films, live music, a fair trade fair, and much, much more. Those involved in presenting during the week include student groups, faculty members, governmental and non-governmental organizations – all of whom provide a diversity of opinions and experiences on the topics being discussed. Various Locations, U of A Campus. <http://www.international.ualberta.ca/globaled.php?id=199>

## UNTIL FEB 4 2006

**Celebrate Hope Week - Hope Foundation Open House**  
The Hope Foundation of Alberta invites you to celebrate Hope Week Jan. 30 – Feb. 4, 2006 Hope, Week Kick off at Edmonton City Hall - Monday, January 30, 2006, 12 - 1:30 p.m. Mayor Mandel, proclamation of Hope Week; Honourable Douglas Roche O.C., guest speaker; Youth & Hope: Visible through Art Display. With a mission to strengthen the sense of hope for youth and residents in care, HOPE KIDS is a community service program for children who would like to learn about hope and make a difference in someone's life. Come meet some of these children and view their visions of hope. Misericordia Community Hospital auditorium: Hope Foundation open house, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. 11032 - 89 Avenue - Youth & Hope: Hope Week Kick Off at City Hall; Hope Foundation Open House at: Hope Foundation of Alberta 11032 - 89 Avenue Edmonton, AB T6G 0Z6. <http://www.ualberta.ca/hope>

## FEB 3 2006

**Mechanism of RNAi-dependent heterochromatin assembly in Schizosaccharomyces pombe**  
Dr. Mo Motamedi, Department of Cell Biology, Harvard Medical School, is presenting a seminar on "Mechanism of RNAi-dependent heterochromatin assembly in Schizosaccharomyces pombe." 3:30 p.m. M-149, Biological Sciences Building. <http://www.biology.ualberta.ca/courses/genet605/index.php?Page=3700>

**NSERC Strategic Program Grants Information Session**  
NSERC's Strategic Project Grants program funds project research in target areas of national importance and in emerging areas that are of potential significance to Canada. Register to learn from NSERC representatives about the Strategic Grant Program and its new target areas and research topics for 2006. This workshop is open to all researchers at the U of A, Athabasca University, and King's College and will be of particular interest to those in natural sciences and engineering. Industry partners are also welcome to attend. Please register at the Learning Shop. 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. E6-060 Engineering Teaching and Learning Complex (ETLC). <http://rsoregistration.ualberta.ca/listCourses.jsp>

**Recent Changes in Arctic Lake Ecosystems: The Sediment Record**  
Dr. Alex Wolfe, Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, University of Alberta is presenting a seminar entitled, "Recent Changes in Arctic Lake Ecosystems: The Sediment Record" Event is part of the Biology 631 Seminar Series. 12 p.m. M-149 Biological Sciences Building. <http://www.biology.ualberta.ca/courses/biol631/>.

**Search firms, headhunters and temps: What you should know**  
Thinking about using a recruitment firm to help you find work? Learn what recruitment firms do, how to use them in your work search and what recruiters look for in candidates. Free of charge. Drop into CaPS office. 12:05 p.m. - 12:50 p.m. 2-100 SUB. <http://www.ualberta.ca/caps>.

**Curriculum & Pedagogy Institute Seminar Series: Internationalization / Globalization**  
Dr. William Pinar, Professor and Canada Research Chair of Curriculum Studies, University of British Columbia: "Exile and Estrangement in the Internationalization of Curriculum Studies." 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. 122 Education South.

**Street Drug Awareness: An Overview**  
Campus Security Services, in partnership with U of A Residence Services, is pleased to host Detective Steve Walton, "Street Drug Awareness; An Overview. During this two-hour presentation, attendees are exposed to the most current drug trends, symptoms, indicators and the sub-culture that revolves around the use of drugs. Detective Steve Walton (retired) is a 25-year veteran of law enforcement. Steve's formal and informal education regarding street drugs has provide him with considerable expertise in the areas of street jargon, consumption practices and the physiology of street drugs, the effects of use, street pricing and patterns of abuse. This is a free presentation, but seating is limited. Call 492-5957 or e-mail [grace.berry@cps.ualberta.ca](mailto:grace.berry@cps.ualberta.ca) to reserve your seat. 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Maple Leaf Room, Lister Conference Centre (116 Street and 87 Avenue). <http://www.cps.ualberta.ca/DopeOnDope.asp>

**Alumni and Friends of the Faculty of Law**  
For alumni and friends of the Faculty of Law, come out and watch the Golden Bears vs. UBC in the private skybox in the Clare Drake Arena. 7 p.m. Clare Drake Arena Law Centre.

**Pandas Volleyball**  
Pandas vs. Winnipeg. 7:00 p.m. Main Gym, Van Vliet Physical Education and Recreation Centre. [www.cubsclub.ualberta.ca](http://www.cubsclub.ualberta.ca)

**Bears Hockey**  
Bears vs. UBC. 7:30 p.m. Clare Drake Arena, Van Vliet Physical Education and Recreation Centre. [www.cubsclub.ualberta.ca](http://www.cubsclub.ualberta.ca)

## FEB 4 2006

**Third World Interests: What Role Should Canada Play in Relieving International Poverty?**  
Dr. Tom Keating, Professor, Political Science 2 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Stanley A. Milner Library (Edmonton Room), 7 Sir Winston Churchill Square.

**Pandas Volleyball**  
Pandas vs. Winnipeg. 7 p.m. Main Gym, Van Vliet Physical Education and Recreation Centre. [www.cubsclub.ualberta.ca](http://www.cubsclub.ualberta.ca)

**Bears Hockey**  
Bears vs. UBC. 7:30 p.m. Clare Drake Arena, Van Vliet Physical Education and Recreation Centre. [www.cubsclub.ualberta.ca](http://www.cubsclub.ualberta.ca)

## FEB 5 2006

**Music at Convocation Hall II**  
Music at Convocation Hall II: William Street, saxophone; Roger Admiral, piano; Trevor Brandenburg, percussion; The Dionysian: Erin Rogers; Rigririo (2000): Stefano Gervasoni; durch (2004): Mark Andre; the noise of carpet (2005) (Premiere): Scott Godin. Contact: Jim Matheson 3 p.m. Arts Building/Convocation Hall.

## FEB 6 2006

**Dr. Catherine Llorens-Cortes**  
"Apelin: A New Peptide Involved in the Regulation of Body Fluid Homeostasis and Cardiovascular Functions." 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. 5-10 Medical Sciences Building.

**Visiting Speaker**  
Dr. Catherine Llorens-Cortes, Professor and Research Director, College de France, Paris France. Title of talk: "Apelin: a new peptide involved in the regulation of body fluid homeostasis and cardiovascular functions." 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. 5-10 Medical Sciences Building. <http://www.ualberta.ca/cellbiology>

**Music at Noon, Convocation Hall Student Recital Series**  
Music at Noon, Convocation Hall Student Recital Series Featuring students from the Department of Music 12:00 p.m. Arts Building/Convocation Hall.

**www.you: Developing a work search website**  
Thinking about creating a website to help you find work? Learn how you might design or structure your work search website and get it out to employers. (Note: You will not learn HTML in this seminar.) Free of charge. Drop into CaPS office, 2-100 SUB. 12:05 p.m. - 12:50 p.m. 2-100 SUB. <http://www.ualberta.ca/caps>

**University Teaching Services (UTS)**  
Engaging Ideas: Simple Strategies for Implementing Active Learning. Students are more apt to learn at a deeper level if they are not merely recipients of knowledge, but actively involved in the learning process. Bring your ideas, challenges, and thoughts to explore some simple strategies for active learning in the classroom and beyond. Presenter: Margaret Spence, University Teaching Services. Please register for this session at [www.ualberta.ca/~uts](http://www.ualberta.ca/~uts). 3 - 4:30 p.m. CAB 243.

## FEB 7 2006

**Town Hall Meeting for Mandatory retirement Task Force**  
This town hall meeting is intended to encourage discussion about issues, concerns, and questions regarding the possible elimination of mandatory retirement for academic staff (faculty members, librarians, FSOs, APOs, sessional instructors and other contract staff falling within the scope of the Sessional Agreement) at the University of Alberta. 12-1 p.m. Council Chambers, University Hall. For more information: [taskforces@mail.ido.ualberta.ca](mailto:taskforces@mail.ido.ualberta.ca)

**Demystifying the grad school application process**  
Further your thinking about applying to graduate school. Consider whether or not graduate school is right for you. Learn how to evaluate graduate programs and prepare strong application packages. Free of charge. Drop into CaPS office, 12:35 p.m. - 1:20 p.m. 2-100 SUB. <http://www.ualberta.ca/caps>

**Introduction to RefWorks (Humanities & Social Sciences)**  
Learn to use RefWorks, a web-based citation manager, which allows you to import, create/store references, cite them in Word documents, and format bibliographies in different reference styles (e.g. APA, Chicago, etc). Please obtain RefWorks ID and password before attending the session by registering. Bring your campus comput-

ing ID and password, and the RefWorks authentication information to the session. For registration info: To find out more: [http://www.library.ualberta.ca/databases\\_help/refworks/index.cfm](http://www.library.ualberta.ca/databases_help/refworks/index.cfm). 2- 3:00 p.m. Rutherford Library South Computer Lab, 2-03.

**University Teaching Services (UTS)**  
iPod or 'boombox' and Tablet PC or 'Etch-a-Sketch': Tools for Student Engagement? This session will look at the capabilities of two technologies that have matured over the past several years and consider the possibilities for student engagement both within and beyond the classroom. Whether you're on the leading edge of using technology, or wary of the pitfalls of focusing on the technology rather than learning, you will hear of some interesting applications Presenter: Jim Boyes, Faculty of Extension. Please register for this session at [www.ualberta.ca/~uts](http://www.ualberta.ca/~uts) 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. CAB 243.

**Acing the Interview for Students in Arts and Business**  
The focus of this workshop is on how to prepare effectively for a job interview and how to respond to interview questions. Results from our employer survey about their practices and expectations regarding the interview process are included in this workshop. 4:30 - 6 p.m. 4-02 SUB. <http://www.ualberta.ca/caps>

## FEB 8 2006

**PHS Grand Rounds**  
Guest Speaker: Dr. Victor J Pop, Professor, Clinical Health Psychology, University of Tilburg, The Netherlands "Maternal Well-Being During Gestation, Obstetrical Outcome and Neurodevelopment of the Offspring in Relation to Gestational Thyroid Function" 12- 1 p.m. Room 2-117, Clinical Sciences Building. <http://www.phs.ualberta.ca>

**Stretching Out Your Business Muscles: What You Need to Know About Opening a Physio Clinic**  
You know how to handle patients delicately and alleviate their pains, but do you know how to develop a strong private practice? Learn how to build a business from the group up - including important information on incorporation, taxes, dealing with contracts, and other tips to make opening a clinic a pain free experience. Free of charge. Drop into CaPS office, 12:05 - 12:50 p.m. 2-100 SUB.. <http://www.ualberta.ca/caps>

**Departmental Seminar**  
The Department of Biological Sciences is pleased to welcome Dr. Anthony De Tomaso, Hopkins Marine Station of Stanford University, as a speaker for the 2005-2006 Departmental Seminar Series. Dr. De Tomaso will present his seminar, entitled "Transplantation, Regeneration and Parasitic Stem Cells: the Strange Life of a Primitive Chordate." Refreshments will be served at 2:45 p.m. Talk at 3 p.m. 2-001 ETLC. [http://www.biology.ualberta.ca/news\\_events/events/index.php?Show\\_Description=Yes&month=2&year=2006&day=8&Series=&Show\\_All=](http://www.biology.ualberta.ca/news_events/events/index.php?Show_Description=Yes&month=2&year=2006&day=8&Series=&Show_All=)

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of Arts, University of Alberta. For more information, please contact Kristopher Wells at [kwells@ualberta.ca](mailto:kwells@ualberta.ca) or Marjorie Wonham at [mwonham@ualberta.ca](mailto:mwonham@ualberta.ca). 5-6 p.m. 7-152 Education North Education Centre.

FEB 17 2006

**Curriculum & Pedagogy Institute Seminar Series: Internationalization / Globalization**  
Dr David Smith, Professor, Dept of Secondary Education: "Learning to Read Education Through the Processes of Globalization: Decoding the Logic of Immanence and Facing the Challenges of Mnemonic Repetition" 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. 122 Education South. <http://www.quasar.ualberta.ca/cpin/upcoming.htm>

FEB 18 2006

**Bears Hockey** Bears vs. Calgary. 7:00 p.m. Clare Drake Arena, Van Vliet Physical Education and Recreation Centre. [www.cubsclub.ualberta.ca](http://www.cubsclub.ualberta.ca)

FEB 22 - 24, 2006

**Oilsands 2006** The Oilsands 2006 conference is an outgrowth of the NSERC Oilsand Chairs symposium organized by Professors Jacob Masliyah and Murray Gray. It will provide an excellent forum for

presenters and attendees to learn and exchange valuable experience concerning topics that include: integrated approaches to oilsands processing, pipeline, marketing of oilsand products, ore processability, tailings, froth treatment, bitumen composition and properties, low cost hydrogen production, bitumen conversion, energy efficiency, gasification & hydrotreating product quality. Please note the submission deadline and other details are available at [www.ualberta.ca/oilsands2006](http://www.ualberta.ca/oilsands2006). 7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. University of Alberta, Engineering Teaching and Learning Complex (ETLC) Room 1-001. <http://www.ualberta.ca/oilsands2006>

FEB 23 - FEB 25, 2006

**Western Region Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing Conference** WRCASN is the western region (British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba) and we are part of the Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing, the national association for nursing education and nursing research in Canada. The objectives are: "To lead nursing education and nursing scholarship in the interest of healthier Canadians." The theme for the 2006 WRCASN Conference is "Nursing Education: Shaping the Future." 4:00 p.m. Fantasyland Hotel. <http://www.nursing.ualberta.ca>

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**RIVERBEND** Henderson Estates/Eagle Ridge - Short-term, executive home steps from the ravines and walking trails, easy access to great schools, shopping, the freeway w/easy access to the airport, 4 bdrm, 2 storey, fully finished bsmt, media room, 3,039 sq. ft. Immediate to June 1/06 \$2,000/mo. Call Janet Fraser 441-6441 Gordon W.R. King & Assoc. Real Estate Corp.

**ASPEN GARDENS** - Short-term, exceptional updated bungalow, 3 bdrm, furnished, hardwood floors, fireplace, close to bus. \$1,100/mo. Immediate to April 30/06, call Michael Jenner 441-6441 Gordon W.R. King & Assoc. Real Estate Corp.

**GREENVIEW FURNISHED SABBATICAL HOME**, cul-de-sac location. 3 bdrms on main and fully finished basement with artist's studio, two full baths. Peaceful and beautiful backyard. Immediate, long term lease available. Call Janet Fraser 441-6441 Gordon W.R. King & Assoc. Real Estate Corp.

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**WESTEND** La Pravada 95 Ave 174 St. - Exquisite executive 2 bdrm townhouse 1,380 sq. ft. Many upgrades, hardwood floors, fully furnished, \$1,400/mo. Immediate. Call Janet Fraser 441-6441 Gordon W.R. King & Assoc. Real Estate Corp.

**HOLYROOD LOVELY SPACIOUS 3 BEDROOM BUNGALOW** - Fully upgraded, dream kitchen, hardwood floors, finished basement \$1200/mo. Immediate. Call Janet Fraser 441-6441 Gordon W.R. King & Assoc Real Estate Corp.

**WALK TO UNIVERSITY SABBATICAL HOME**, furnished, 2,000+ sq. ft., custom built, quiet street January - December, 2006 (780) 492-5002, marty.luckert@ualberta.ca.

**FURNISHED SABBATICAL HOUSE** 4 bedrooms, available Jan 1st, \$1,100/month+ utilities. Southgate/Heritage area convenient bus to U of A. [peter.a.smith@ualberta.ca](mailto:peter.a.smith@ualberta.ca).

**COMPLETELY RENOVATED BUNGALOW IN PARKALLEN** for rent (\$1,200 plus utilities). Ideal for one/two people. Polite/peaceful lifestyle, no smoking, no noise/music outside. Pets/plants welcome if treated with TLC. Phone 438-6511 for interview/appointment. Please leave message.

**HOLIDAY RENTALS MEDIEVAL HOUSE OR STUDIO APARTMENT** South of France near Montpelier (780) 433-9602, [salliejohnson@shaw.ca](mailto:salliejohnson@shaw.ca).

**TWO UofA RESEARCH FARM STAFF HOUSES** - 3-bdrm house at Edmonton Research Farm, \$1,000/month plus utilities and 3-bdrm house at Ellerslie Research Farm, \$700/month plus utilities. Priority is given to Full-Time UofA employees. Please contact Residence Services, Ancillary Services at 492-7044.

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# notices

Please send notices attention Folio, 6th floor General Services building, University of Alberta, T6G 2H1 or e-mail [public.affairs@ualberta.ca](mailto:public.affairs@ualberta.ca). Notices should be received by 12 p.m. Thursday one week prior to publication.

### 3M TEACHING FELLOWSHIPS 2006 - CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The 3M Teaching Fellowships Award is a joint project of 3M Canada Inc. and the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education (STLHE), initiated in 1986 by STLHE. Up to 10 awards are given annually. The University of Alberta has 24 3M Teaching Fellows. The 3M Teaching Fellowships represent Canada's only national award for university educators. Any individual teaching at a Canadian university (regardless of discipline or level of appointment) is eligible. An all expense paid three-day (November 4-6, 2006) retreat at the Fairmont Le Château Montebello is a main component of the award. Nomination information is available at [www.mcmaster.ca/3Mteachingfellowships](http://www.mcmaster.ca/3Mteachingfellowships). Email enquiries should be directed to Arshad Ahmad, or (514) 848-2424 ext. 2928 or 2793. Assistance is also available from Bente Roed, Academic Awards and Ceremonies, B19 Administration Building, 492-2644. The nomination package must be received at Bente Roed's office by noon, February 15, 2006 to meet the external deadline of March 3, 2006. B19 Administration Building.

### CALL FOR PROPOSALS, 2006 ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR BIOENGINEERING

Call for presentations and papers for the 2006 Annual Conference of the Canadian Society for Bioengineering, on July 16-19th, 2006, in Edmonton, Alberta. The theme of the conference is "Seeing I to I - Integrity and Integration in Bioengineering." Submit your proposal related to bioengineering in: food and bio-products; agricultural production; machinery systems; soil, water, and air; building systems; animal welfare; information technology; waste management and bio-residuals; renewable energy and biofuels; emerging technologies and issues. Submit your proposal by March 15th, 2006. Fantasyland Hotel and Conference Centre, West Edmonton Mall, Edmonton, AB. <http://www.bioeng.ca/Events/Edm2006/index.htm>.

### EFF - UNIVERSITY TEACHING RESEARCH FUND APPLICATION DEADLINE

The deadline for receipt of applications to the EFF - University Teaching Research Fund is Feb. 15. This fund was established to support research on teaching-learning. The intended outcome is to enhance the quality of teaching and learning for students.

Application forms are available from the Office of the Vice-Provost, 2-10 University Hall, phone: 2-1503; or from our website: <http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/provost/AwardsFunding.cfm>

### AWARDS FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE

The GFC University Teaching Awards Committee (UTAC) announces to the University community that nominations are now being sought for the annual Rutherford Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, WH Alexander Award for Excellence in Sessional Teaching and the Teaching Unit Award. The purpose of these awards is to recognize excellent teaching, to publicize such excellence to the University and the wider community, to encourage the pursuit of excellence in teaching, and to promote informed discussion of teaching and its improvement at the University of Alberta. Nominations are made by Faculties that teach undergraduate students, and information about the nomination procedures and adjudication criteria has been sent to those Faculties. Nominations should be made through a Faculty committee and submitted by the Faculty to the Secretary of GFC UTAC, 2-5 University Hall. Anyone needing assistance and advice in preparing nominations should contact Ms. Bente Roed, Teaching Awards Facilitator, Office of the Registrar and Student Awards, B19B Administration Building (492-2644). The deadline for receipt of award nominations is Friday, Feb. 24, 2006 at 4:30 p.m.. Please note that, in most cases, individual Faculties have established earlier deadlines to allow for internal adjudication procedures. 2-5 University Hall. [https://www.coman.ualberta.ca/stellent/groups/public/@academic/documents/policy/pp\\_cmp\\_060320.hcsp](https://www.coman.ualberta.ca/stellent/groups/public/@academic/documents/policy/pp_cmp_060320.hcsp).

### 2006-2007 KILLAM ANNUAL PROFESSORSHIPS

Applications for the 2006-2007 Killam Annual Professorships are now available. All regular, continuing, full-time academic faculty members who are not on leave during 2006-2007 are eligible to apply. Deans, Department Chairs and other senior university administrators with personnel responsibilities shall not normally be eligible for Killam Annual Professorships. Associate Deans and Associate Department Chairs are eligible providing they do not have personnel responsibilities. Up to eight Killam Annual Professors will be selected by a subcommittee of the Killam Trusts Committee; no more than two Professorships shall be awarded to staff members in any one Faculty in any given year. Each Killam Annual Professor shall be presented with a \$3500 prize and a commemorative plaque. The duties of Killam Annual Professors shall not be

changed from those that they regularly perform as academic staff members.

The primary criterion for selection shall be a record of outstanding scholarship and teaching over three or more years as evidenced by any or all of research publications, creative activities, presented papers, supervision of graduate students, and courses taught. The secondary criterion shall be substantial contributions to the community outside the university, above and beyond what is usually expected of a professor, as evidenced by community involvement directly linked to the applicant's university responsibilities and activities.

Awards are tenable for twelve months commencing 1 July 2005. The completed application must be received at the Office of the Vice-President (Research), 3-7 University Hall, by 4:30 p.m., Friday Feb. 24 2006. The awardees shall be announced by early May, and they will be formally recognized at the Killam Luncheon in October 2006.

Applications and further details are available on the home page of the Vice-President (Research) at: <http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/vpresearch/>

Please contact Annette Kujda, Administrative Officer, Office of the Vice-President (Research) at 492-8342 or [annette.kujda@ualberta.ca](mailto:annette.kujda@ualberta.ca) with any questions.

### J. GORDIN KAPLAN AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

The Office of the Vice-President (Research) takes pleasure in announcing the

2006 Laureates of the J. Gordin Kaplan Award for Excellence in Research: Norman C. Beaulieu (iCORE Research Chair, Canada Research Chair and Professor, Broadband Wireless Communications Faculty of Engineering) and Royston Greenwood (Telus Professor of Strategic Management University of Alberta School of Business).

The Awards Ceremony will be held on Tuesday, March 7, 2006 at 3:30 p.m. Timms Centre for the Arts. Reception will follow. Everyone is welcome. Please watch Folio in March for features on these two outstanding researchers.



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# positions

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## ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, PHILOSOPHY (CONTRACT POSITION) ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE

St. Joseph's College, the Roman Catholic undergraduate college at the University of Alberta, invites applications for a 60% 5-year contractually limited academic position at the Assistant Professor level to teach Philosophy courses for first-year BA students offered as part of Academia, a new pilot program with the Faculty of Arts to begin September 2006, as well as other Philosophy courses offered by St. Joseph's College. The teaching load is 3 half-year courses, with the possibility of Spring or Summer teaching for additional remuneration. Further information concerning Academia may be obtained at our website: [www.ualberta.ca/~stjoseph](http://www.ualberta.ca/~stjoseph). Applicants should have a completed doctorate in Philosophy (ABDs may be considered at the Lecturer rank), teaching experience and excellent communication skills, a commitment to undergraduate education in the Catholic tradition, and a publication record/potential for research. Appointment date is July 1, 2006. This position may be converted to tenure stream at a later date, subject to budgetary approval. Salary is \$30,000. Applicants should submit a letter of application indicating their interest in and qualifications for this position, cv, other supporting documents (teaching dossier, publications, etc.), and arrange for 3 confidential letters of reference to be received by Feb. 13th, 2006 to: Dr. T.F. Hartnagel, Dean, St. Joseph's College, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB, T6G 2J5. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadian citizens and permanent residents will be given priority.

## CLINICAL TRACK TEACHING APPOINTMENTS DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL THERAPY FACULTY OF REHABILITATION MEDICINE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Applications are invited for several full time clinical track positions in the Department of Physical Therapy at the University of Alberta. Preference will be given to qualified applicants who have an interest in teaching in one or more of the following areas: respiratory, musculoskeletal or neurological physical therapy.

As a department in the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine, Physical Therapy offers an innovative course based M.Sc.PT program that integrates strong clinical and evidence based practice skills. The department also participates fully in the interdisciplinary M.Sc. and Ph.D. programs in Rehabilitation Science. The Department currently consists of sixteen full time faculty members.

Applicants must be eligible for licensure with the College of Physical Therapists of Alberta and possess a minimum of a Master's degree (Ph.D or equivalent doctoral degree preferred). These positions will support graduate level teaching and therefore indicators of course development and teaching proficiency are required. The initial appointment is at the Assistant Professor level and salary will be commensurate with experience. These teaching appointments may include an affiliation with a clinical facility. For details about the positions or the Department contact Dr. R.G. Haennel (Chair) at [Bob.Haennel@ualberta.ca](mailto:Bob.Haennel@ualberta.ca) or Tel (780) 492-2889. Website: <http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/rehabmed/PhysicalTherapy.cfm>

Applications will be accepted until the positions are filled. The positions are available as soon as suitable candidates are found. Qualified applicants should send their curriculum vitae, a statement of teaching interests and the names of three (3) references to:

Dr. A. Cook, Dean, Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine, 3-48 Corbett Hall University of Alberta Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, T6G 2G4 Phone: 780-492-5991 Fax: (780) 492-1626 e-mail: [Al.Cook@ualberta.ca](mailto:Al.Cook@ualberta.ca)

## TENURE TRACK FACULTY POSITIONS DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL THERAPY FACULTY OF REHABILITATION MEDICINE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Applications are invited for two tenure track positions in the Department of Physical Therapy at the University of Alberta. For one position preference will be given to qualified applicants who have an interest in Aging. The second position is open to all areas of research related to physical therapy.

As a department in the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine, Physical Therapy offers an innovative course based M.Sc.PT program that integrates strong clinical and evidence based practice skills. The department also participates

fully in the interdisciplinary M.Sc. and Ph.D. programs in Rehabilitation Science. The Department currently consists of sixteen full time faculty members. Within the Faculty there are interdisciplinary research groups focused on common spinal disorders, movement disorders and rehabilitation, child development and aging. Opportunities for research collaboration are also available on campus with the Alberta Centre on Aging, the University Centre for Neuroscience, the Institute of Health Economics, the Alberta Heart Institute, the Alberta Provincial CIHR Training Program in Bone and Joint Health, the Centre for Health Promotion Studies, the Community University Partnership for the Study of Children Youth and Families and the Health Care Quality Outcomes Research Centre. Close working relationships also exist with the Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital and other community-based physical therapy programs.

Qualified candidates will possess a doctoral degree in health sciences, social sciences or related disciplines; have a strong research background and the potential to establish an independent research program. For both positions a background in physical therapy is preferred. Evidence of successful grant applications will be advantageous. Responsibilities will include teaching at the graduate level and maintaining an active research program. For details about the positions or the Department contact Dr. R.G. Haennel (Chair) at [Bob.Haennel@ualberta.ca](mailto:Bob.Haennel@ualberta.ca) or Tel (780) 492-2889. Website: <http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/rehabmed/PhysicalTherapy.cfm>

Rank and salary will be commensurate with qualifications at the Assistant Professor level. Applications will be accepted until the positions are filled. The positions are available as soon as suitable candidates are found. Interested applicants should send curriculum vitae and a statement of teaching and research interests and the names of three (3) references to:

Dr. Albert Cook, Dean, Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine 3-48 Corbett Hall, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6G 2G4 Phone: 403-492-5991/ Fax: 403-492-1626 Email: [Al.Cook@ualberta.ca](mailto:Al.Cook@ualberta.ca)

## CONTINUOUS PROFESSIONAL LEARNING EDUCATOR FACULTY OF MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY

The Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry invites

applications for the position of CPL Educator in the Division of Continuous Professional Learning (formerly Continuing Medical Education). We are looking for an individual with a strong research base, proven ability to attract peer-reviewed funding, and to study aspects of continuous professional learning such as knowledge management and translation, validation of novel learning strategies, for instance, simulations, e-learning, team dynamics and communication. The successful applicant will have a comprehensive track record of interdisciplinary collaboration in the areas of research and teaching.

Previously, continuing medical education programs focused on providing physicians with scholarly enrichment and the ability to update their academic knowledge. Increasingly, continuing medical education programs recognize the need to expand this focus to include: a) the development of team-based, problem-solving strategies, and b) interdisciplinary collaborative approaches that focus on translating research into practice. The primary goal is to ensure patients' safety, improve clinical outcomes, and to work with colleagues in the Faculty of Education to establish a program of research on teaching and learning.

The Division of Continuous Professional Learning (formerly Continuing Medical Education) is an office that organizes Faculty development and provides a wide range of resources that support curriculum design and medical humanities. With a staff of 14 and a budget in excess of one million dollars, the Division provides an array of courses and conferences serving the educational needs

of physicians in practice throughout Northern Alberta. This office works in collaboration with the Division of Studies in Medical Education which has a full-time psychometrician and computer support personnel, as well as administrative support mainly involved in undergrad evaluation and Faculty evaluation. Future plans include the implementation of a graduate degree in medical education and the development of interdisciplinary research programs in the health sciences.

This is a three-year term position, with the option of renewal and the salary is commensurate with experience. The position will remain open until filled but it would be preferred if applications could be received no later than February 8, 2006. Interested individuals are asked to submit their curriculum vitae, background material, and three references to:

Dr. Chris de Gara, Associate Dean, Continuous Professional Learning, 2J3 Walter Mackenzie Centre, University of Alberta Edmonton, AB T6G 2R7 Telephone: (780) 407-6346 E mail: [chrisdeg@cancerboard.ab.ca](mailto:chrisdeg@cancerboard.ab.ca)

Dr. Fern Snart, Dean, Faculty of Education 845 Education South, University of Alberta Edmonton, AB T6G 2G5 (780) 492-3751 E mail: [fern.snart@ualberta.ca](mailto:fern.snart@ualberta.ca)

Details about the University of Alberta, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, as well as the City of Edmonton can be found on the Faculty's web site at [www.med.ualberta.ca](http://www.med.ualberta.ca) and the City of Edmonton's website at [www.edmonton.ca](http://www.edmonton.ca).



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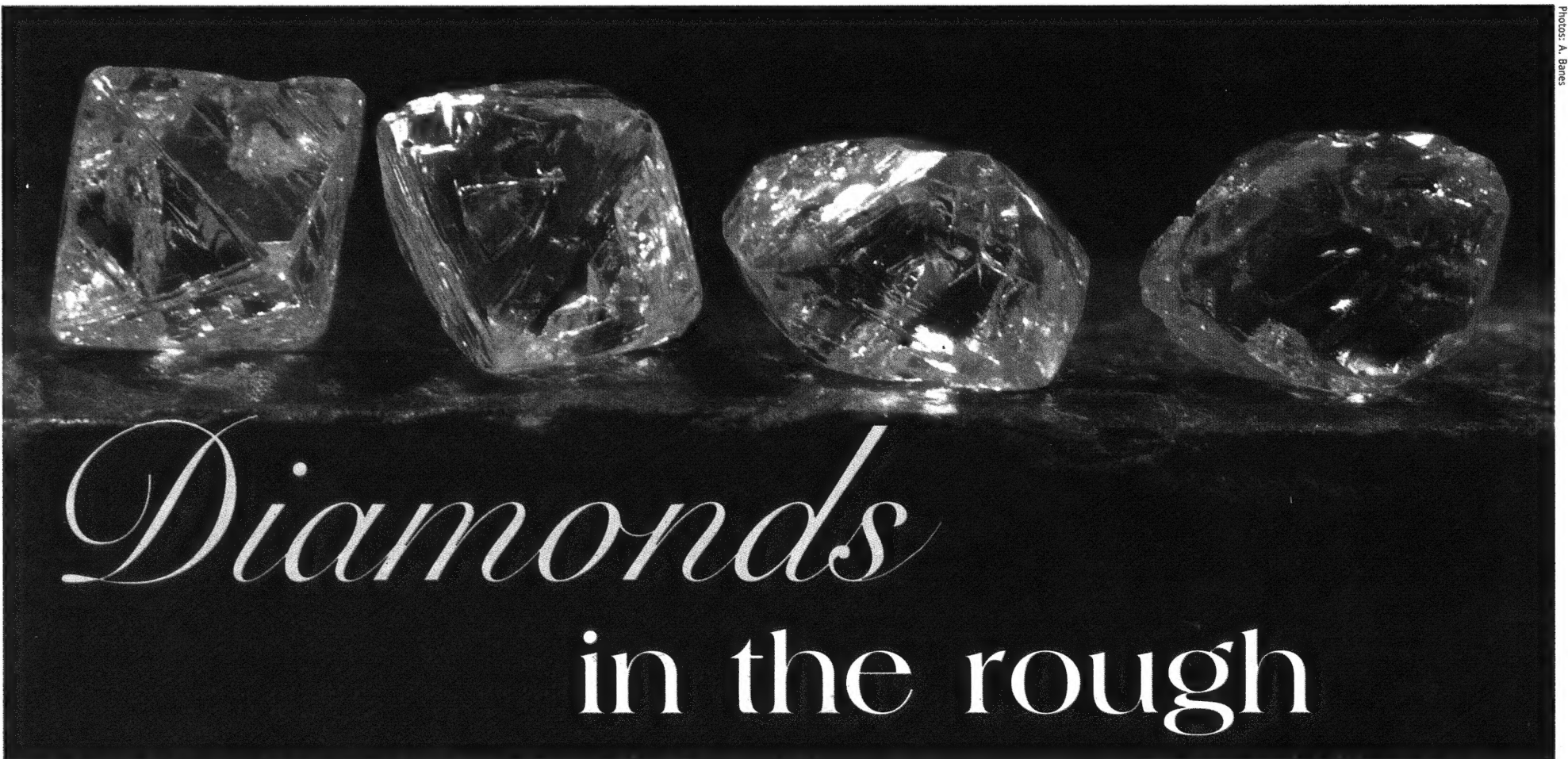


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# Diamonds in the rough

Colour: Colourless to Yellow; Shape: Octahedron to Resorbed Dodecahedron

## Uncut gems offer clues about the origin of diamonds

By Richard Cairney

Long before it sparkles and shines in a box from Tiffany's, a diamond undergoes a journey lasting billions of years and hundreds of kilometres. A new permanent exhibit of more than 60 rough diamonds at the University of Alberta's Mineralogy and Petrology Museum illustrates that journey.

The only one of its kind in Canada, and one of a few such exhibits anywhere, the collection demonstrates the striking variations found in raw diamonds.

Located in the Mineralogy and Petrology Museum in the Earth and Atmospheric Sciences building, the uncut diamonds, while pretty, aren't worth much money at all. Cut diamonds are expensive, but it's the rough stones that interest Dr. Thomas Stachel.

"Unpolished diamonds tell a much different story than a cut stone," said Stachel, a professor in the U of A Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences and Canada Research Chair in diamonds. "Their rough features tell us their history - how they grow and where they were stored deep in the Earth, as well as how they were transported to the surface."

It turns out diamonds survive a far more hostile environment than the settings we're accustomed to seeing them in.

**"Unpolished diamonds tell a much different story than a cut stone."**

— Dr. Thomas Stachel

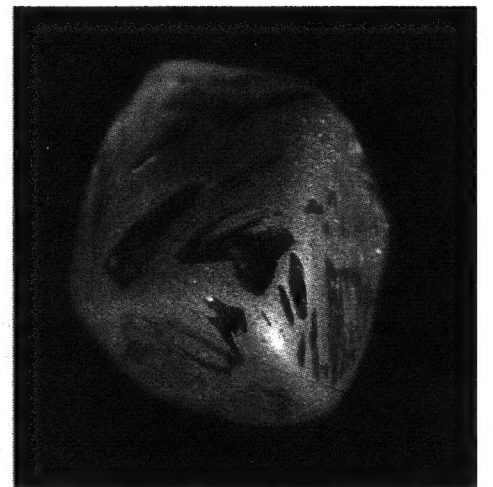
Formed in the Earth's upper mantle, about 140 kilometres underground, diamonds are brought to the surface or closer to the surface in kimberlite volcanoes, Stachel explained.

"It's a time capsule, because the diamond is three billion years old. You can get information from it about what formed the continents."

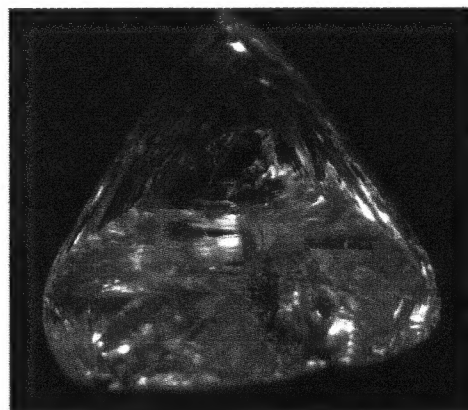
The research that has uncovered the conditions that existed when the diamonds were formed also provides geologists with valuable information about the location, grade and quality of these rare gems.

The exhibit was funded in part by the Alberta Museums Association and by the Friends of the University of Alberta Museums. The majority of diamonds are on permanent loan from the Diamond Trading Company in London, a branch of the diamond mining giant De Beers. Richard Molyneux, president and CEO

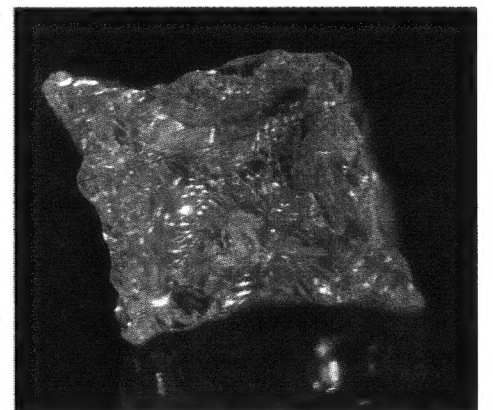
of De Beers Canada, was instrumental in securing the samples for the collection. "De Beers is delighted to continue its support of the work being done by the University of Alberta De Beers Diamond Research Laboratory," he said. Apart from their rarity and beauty, their origin at great depth provides valuable insights for increasing our understanding for the Earth." ■



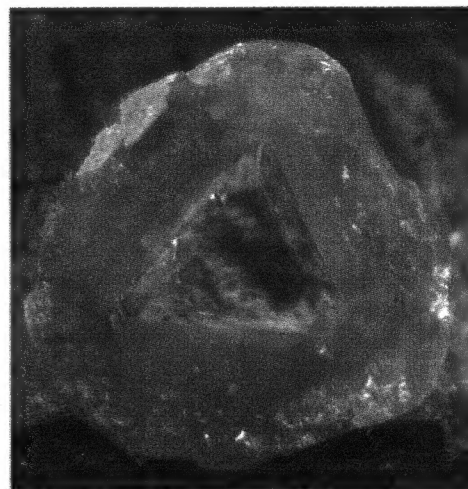
Extensive Abrasion on an Octahedral Diamond



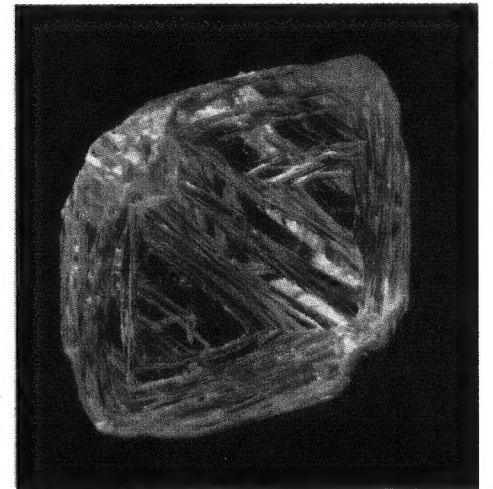
Macle: A Triangular Octahedral Diamond Twin



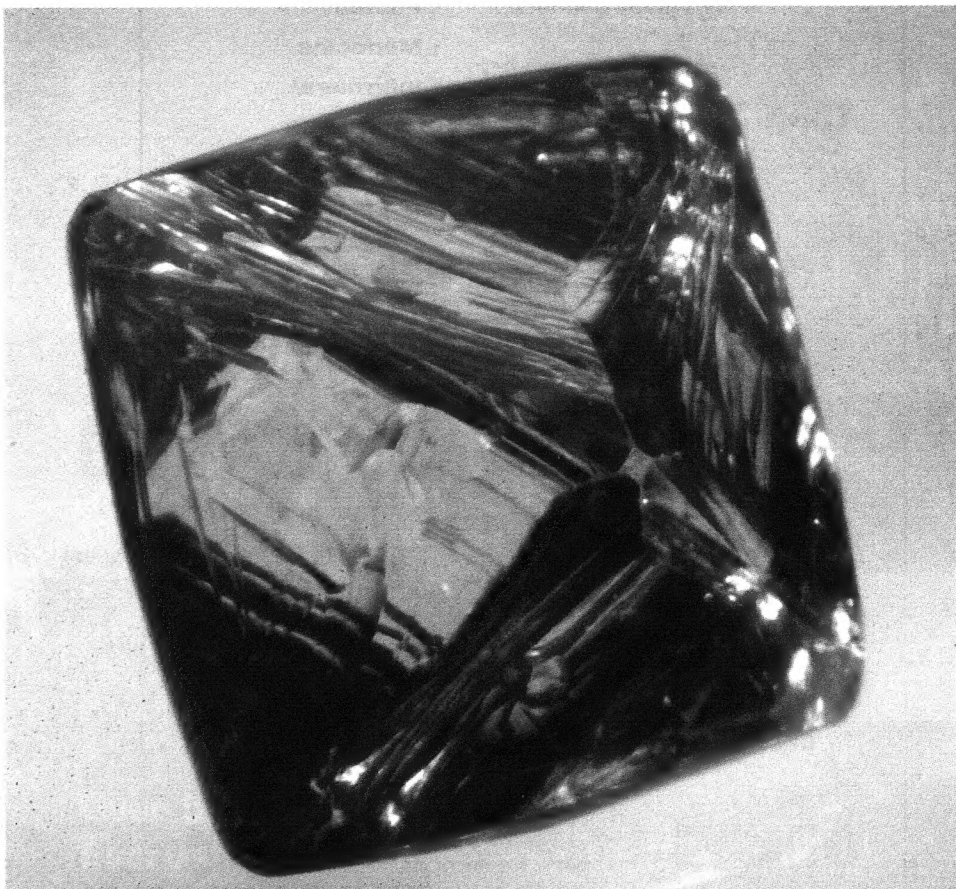
Re-entrant Cube Diamond with Tetragonal Surface Etching



Clear Octahedral Diamond with Fibrous Coat



Octahedral Diamond with Terraces on Octahedral Faces



Green Surface Coat on Octahedral Diamond

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